

**DAGNALL STREET BAPTIST CHURCH  
AND  
CROSS STREET CENTRE ST ALBANS**



**MAGAZINE**

**July/August 2021**

**Free**

**Minister:** Rev Simon J Carver, MA, BSc, - [simoncarver@btinternet.com](mailto:simoncarver@btinternet.com)

**Church Secretary:** Chris Penn

**Finance Deacon:** Trevor Oakley

**Property:** Ray Saunders

**Site Manager and Caretaker:** David Hobbs

**Cross Street:** 01727 846891

Bookings: [bookings@dabc.org.uk](mailto:bookings@dabc.org.uk)/01727 844348

**Charity Registration Number:** 1127791

Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed. "Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing? Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honour except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home." He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. He was amazed at their lack of faith."

Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village. Calling the Twelve to him, he began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over impure spirits. These were his instructions: "Take nothing for the journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in your belts. Wear sandals but not an extra shirt. Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you leave that town. And if any place will not welcome you or listen to you, leave that place and shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them." They went out and preached that the people should repent. They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them.

**SERVICES IN JULY/AUGUST**

	<b>10.30am/Podcast (TBC)</b>
<b>July 4th</b>	<i>Rejection at home and Men on a Mission</i> Mark 6:1-13 <b>Communion</b>
<b>July 11th</b>	<i>A Head on a Plate</i> Mark 6:14-29
<b>July 18th</b>	<i>The Lord is my Shepherd</i> Psalm 23 <b>All-Age Messy Church</b>
<b>July 25th</b>	<i>The Breakfast of Champions</i> John 6.1-21
<b>August 1st</b>	<i>Out of the frying pan ...</i> Exodus 16.2-4,9-15 <b>Communion</b>
<b>August 8th</b>	<b>Megan Thompson and the Deacons</b>
<b>August 15th</b>	<i>You are what you eat</i> John 6:51-58
<b>August 22nd</b>	<i>Choose this day</i> Joshua 24:1-2a,14-18
<b>August 29th</b>	<i>Is cleanliness really next to Godliness?</i> Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

Dear Friends,

About 18 months ago Catriona and I booked a few days away in an apartment in Cornwall. The original booking was for June 2020, but like many people we deferred our holiday booking to this year. If the G7 summit was booked 18 months ago, no one had told us and so we found ourselves sharing Cornwall with the 7 leaders of the free world. The odd thing about this was that without turning on the television, we wouldn't have known that they were so close to where we were staying as at one point – when they visited the Eden project – they were less than 10 miles away.



This idea of being so close, but never seeing them, reminded me of the way that Jesus tended to be portrayed in films in the first half of the last century. He was often shown from the back so we never saw his face. There was a book written some years ago called *The Shadow of the Galilean* in which a fictional character travelled around 1st century Palestine learning about Jesus from the people he meets but never actually meeting Jesus.

The author, German theologian Gerd Theissen, uses this device to write in an imaginative way about the historical figure of Jesus. Theissen is not the first person to have written about the Jesus of history – Albert Schweitzer wrote *The Quest of the Historical Jesus* in 1906. Schweitzer decides that his 'quest' ends in failure and because, he says, that the historical Jesus is unknowable. But if we bring together Theissen's novel and Schweitzer's research we get, I believe, an interesting outcome.

This is that it is necessary to meet Jesus to know Jesus. The apostle Paul met Jesus on his way north to persecute Christians and until that point he knew *about* Jesus without knowing *him*. Obviously we cannot meet Jesus as those who lived when he lived met him, but in the last few lines of his book, Albert Schweitzer describes how Jesus still meets people today. It is in following Jesus that we know who he is.

July/August 2021

*He comes to us as one unknown, without a name, as of old, by the lake-side, or indeed on the Emmaus road, He came close to those men, who knew Him not. He speaks to us the same word: 'Follow Thou me!' and sets us to the tasks which He has to fulfil for our time.*

*He commands. And to those who obey Him, whether they be wise or simple, He will reveal Himself in the toils, the conflicts, the sufferings which they shall pass through in His fellowship, and, as an ineffable mystery, they shall learn in their own experience Who He is.*

Best Wishes

Simon



## ***A story with a happy ending***

Many of you will know that Judy Pental is moving to the south coast. During the course of preparing for the move Judy came across this little plaster bust of the famous 19th century preacher C H Spurgeon. It had been put in a drawer having been given to Bryan Pental many years ago by an aunt. Judy asked me what should she do with it as she didn't want it and it seemed a shame to throw it away. Having recently sold a bigger plaster bust of Tchaikovsky that I had inherited from my father, I thought I would try to do the same with Mr Spurgeon.

Whereas my composer bust was fairly modern and not very unusual, the bust of Spurgeon was made by a small company in Stoke on Trent that had gone out of business 100 years ago. The bust also had the makers name on the back. This made Mr Spurgeon a more valuable commodity than Mr Tchaikovsky when I put him up for auction on eBay.





There were a number of bids and the winning bidder was based in Germany, which caused a slight problem – post-Brexit – in that the bust was stuck in customs for a few weeks. The story has a happy ending as CH Spurgeon now sits on the shelves of Arndt Schnepfer, Professor in Practical Theology at the Theological University of Ewersbach. Our church funds also received an unexpected boost thanks to Judy's generosity ... and Mr Spurgeon.

*Simon*

ebay®

## ***DIACONATE UPDATE***

Danny Smith has resigned from the diaconate having served as a deacon for nearly six years in this current term. We thank Danny for the contribution he has made to the life of our church as a deacon and Danny will continue to serve the church in supporting our communications in various ways and in his role as Bookings Administrator.

*Simon*





## **David Edgington**

Our former member, David Edgington, died peacefully on Monday 14th June after a short period in hospital. David was 88 years old and had moved down to Swanage about 10 years ago, but had kept in touch with all things Dagnall Street since then. During his time at Dagnall Street, David had been a preacher, a student leader, a deacon, an organist and chair of the mission committee. David was irrepressibly enthusiastic and had the energy of a man half his age. Just a few days ago, I received a letter from David himself asking if it would be OK to have a thanksgiving service for him at Dagnall Street. He noted that the date would need to be arranged later! It will be OK and we will arrange the date with David's family in due course. We remember David with fondness and hold Judy and the children in our

*Simon*



## **MANIPUR CHRISTIAN SCHOOL PROJECT**

We had hoped to produce a Newsletter at the end of May but there was little news to tell! The pandemic continues to affect us all here in the UK, Emmanuel School in Manipur and the rest of the world and we are all facing problems and situations we could never have dreamed of 18 months ago!

Emmanuel School opened very briefly in April and there was a rush of enthusiasm and optimism amongst both staff and pupils but then the second wave of the virus struck and the whole of India was locked down again. At first Joanne and the rest of the staff hoped they could continue teaching in 'bubbles' but this too was forbidden. They are now struggling to organise some online teaching but this is far from satisfactory as many of the children do not have access to the internet. Joanne holds a weekly 'assembly' on a Sunday partly to boost their English language skills but also to foster a sense of community but this again is hampered by the lack of internet access.

Also, due to the lockdown it is not possible for us to open the new bank account in Delhi which is now required by the Indian government, so we are not able to transfer much needed money. Hopefully this problem will be resolved soon. In the meantime our bank account here in the UK grows and the School's diminishes!

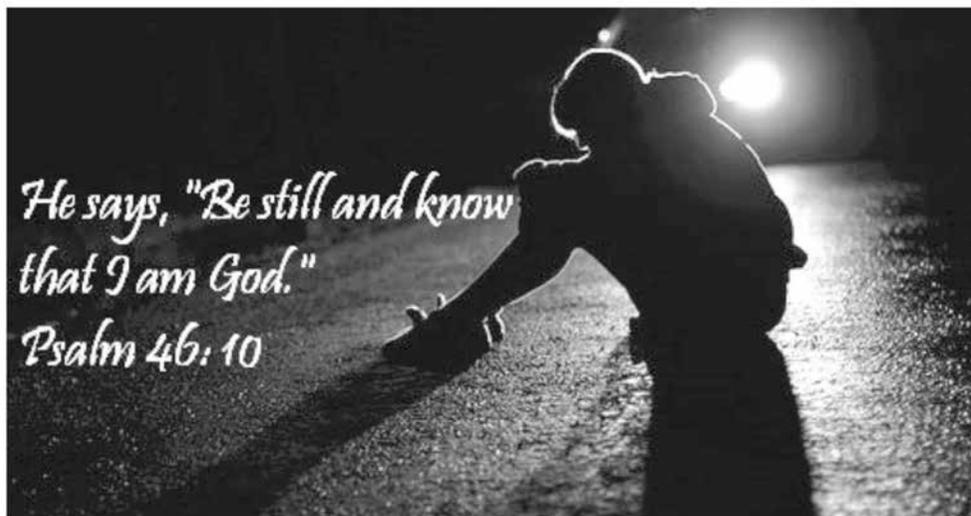
We have decided to go ahead with the **annual summer barbecue here at 12 Worcester Road. It will be held on Saturday 17 July from 12 noon until 2.30pm.** According to COVID rules we are allowed 30 socially distanced guests in our garden at a time, so as people tend to come and go throughout the afternoon that should be quite safe. We would love to see you if only for a short time! Don't forget to ask me for a parking permit when you arrive!

July/August 2021

This letter is sent with our sincere thanks for your continued support, interest and prayers over the past difficult months. Our prayer is that, with the promise of vaccines not only here in the UK but for the world, life will return to normal in the not too distant future.

*Muriel Kipgen*





It is good to attend church each Sunday, even if seating is still spaced out, but it is even better now that we can get together for after-church refreshments and can socialize a little. Thanks to all our volunteers who serve tea and coffee so safely and cheerfully. We remember friends who would like to have joined us but have not yet been able to do so for whatever reason. Messy church made a comeback on the 20th and was well attended to the point of being quite difficult to find a seat with two in between!

Sadly two of our ex members of many years have died...Chris Hawkins and David Edgington, and we pray for their families.

Vera Mills is now again in hospital after a fall, but she is progressing and John is still at home with the aid of carers. Stuart Turnbull and Mary Bull have both moved into residential care. Stuart to Yorkshire to be nearer his daughter and Mary to a cursing home in Shenley.

Judy Pental will soon be moving to Goring to be near her soon and Miriam Gussek and Leo will be returning home to Germany to live.

July/August 2021

We remember those who would value our prayers:

John Carpenter, Julia Plant, Jenny Johnson, Kristzina Schreiner, Linda Williams, Olly and Brian Branch, Gaz Jordan and Danny Smith.

We also pray for all those who are suffering from the effects of COVID, whether it be health wise, job loss, money worries or loneliness and depression. So many have been affected by the last 18 months, including children and students of all ages. Hopefully we shall soon have lovely summer weather that will lift everyone's spirits.

***“Dear Lord, you have called us by name and you know everything about us. You know our hopes and fears, our failings and our struggles and everything that worries us and separates us from your love. You are our Rock ....help us to lay all these burdens before you and wait upon you in peace and hope. In Jesu's name.”***

***Amen***

***Marjorie Jones***





## ***PASTORAL TEAM***

The Minister, Simon, and members of the Pastoral Team are always happy to make appointments to visit, talk or pray with you. This can take place in your home, at Cross Street or at our homes at your convenience and at mutually convenient times.

Marjorie Jones (01727 841845)), Jill Potter (07779 797928), Emma Johnson (07974 161535, Liz Blight (07884 431051), and Alison Ashmore (01727 867335), are also active members of the Pastoral Team.

Simon and the team hope you will notify them of anybody who you think may be ill, lonely or who needs help.



On Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May Hatfield Road Methodist Church (HRMC) co-ordinated a 'round St Albans churches' sponsored walk for Christian Aid. The idea was to raise part of the money usually raised from the door-to-door collections.

It was advertised as being just less than 20 miles, and passed 30 St Albans churches on the way. It started and ended at HRMC, and stretched from Sandridge in the north to Chiswell Green in the south.

In spite of the pessimistic weather forecast, we joined the walk at the beginning and were rewarded with a dry day. However, due to our health / Leeds United on the television (delete as appropriate), we stopped half way round at the point where the walk passed the end of our road.

We walked the rest of the way on our own on 2 separate days, tak

ing a photo of Colin at each of the churches, including DSBC. The photo opposite was taken of the group at the start of the walk.

According to Anne Wall of HRMC, the walk raised £5,309.

Also, DSBC raised £301 from the Christian Aid envelopes in the church.

It is not too late to donate, just go to:

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/give/give-money>

*Colin and Sue Owen*



July/August 2021

# ***Visit Jerusalem in St Albans!***

With pandemic restrictions easing, now's the time to book a visit to Jerusalem, without all the hassle of flying there.

Our faith is founded on world-changing events which took place in Jerusalem around 2,000 years ago. So what has been the significance of that city, and what future developments which concern us all are we told will be focused there?

Answers from the Bible are illustrated at a small but expanding exhibition at Lattimore Hall, 7 Lattimore Road, in St Albans. Individuals and small groups are welcome; attendance is free.

**Large screen presentations** portray Jerusalem's unique story. **Guided tours of an extensive model** of the 2nd Temple and an **immersive 3D video** vividly explore the life and world of Jesus.

For booking details please visit [www.jerusalem-experience.uk](http://www.jerusalem-experience.uk) or contact Howard Roberts on 01727 858869.



# Pippa and Toby Vokuhl

## OF FRIGHT AND FREEDOM

June 2021



[www.bmsworldmission.org/ptvokuhl](http://www.bmsworldmission.org/ptvokuhl)

What did you first do to celebrate your rediscovered UK freedom to move and reconnect with people? Speaking to family and friends back home we hear how individuals are re-discovering post-lockdown and post-restriction life right now. What a blessing.

In Nepal we need to remain patient. For more than a month now, and living in Kathmandu since our return in March, we are back in housebound lockdown again. One might have thought that we had already sufficiently practised patience last year, having been in the UK all winter, but it turns out there is more coping and waiting to do. As the second C-19 wave is hitting Nepal and the health system a lot harder than the first time around, we hear daily reports of capacity related hospital closures, oxygen shortages, and illness within our circles. When children's classmates' families, former household help, and current household help, all concurrently suffer from the illness, and some badly, it is easy to be frightened. Today's newsletter however is entitled 'Of Fright and Freedom' for a reason. As Christians we may be frightened for precious people and for ourselves at times, but we also carry knowledge of a special freedom, as per John 8:36 (New Living Translation)

"So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free."

When we wrote our last prayer letter we said to ourselves that we would not send another one that focussed on Covid-19... but that was before the humanitarian crisis of Nepal's crippling second wave hit with a vengeance. Now, more than ever, Nepal needs God's mercy, and we would love to fill you in about the situation here to guide you in your prayers at this time.

According to the BBC, Nepal currently has the highest rate of Covid transmission in the world. Official figures show a fairly steady rate of new daily cases of around 8,000, but test positivity rates of up to 50% reveal how little this represents reality. Indeed, we recently saw figures that used scientific modelling to estimate that at the height of the wave last week, 550 000 new infections are likely to have occurred in one day.

Accessing PCR tests is severely limited by local availability, cost, and active choices not to get tested because of the shame involved in being Covid positive and the subsequent threat of being ostracized from communities. Lack of testing has obvious impacts on contact tracing and ongoing transmission.

Nepal has been back in lockdown now for a month. Restrictions are very stringent - outdoor exercise is not allowed, and we can only leave the house for food shopping between 7 and 9 AM. These rules were tightened even further this week, and currently even grocery shops are shut for 6 days, although we can still buy vegetables and milk from small shops. Once again, the poor are disproportionately affected both by Covid itself, and by the lockdown. With 70% of Nepalis working in the informal sector, a majority of the population simply have no work and no sources of income whatsoever at the moment, whether for food or hospital bills. Any meagre savings were used up during the 4 month lockdown last summer, and jobs since then have been hard to come by, particularly in the tourism sector on which many rely. There are no furlough schemes, no social security, and definitely no NHS. People are, quite literally, starving.

As people fear for themselves, for their loved ones, and for their future, please pray with us that God in his mercy will reveal himself to many through his word and through loving deeds, and that this time of hardship leads to unexpected blessings.



As mentioned, hospitals here, already chronically under-resourced, have been overwhelmed by the sheer numbers of Covid patients and an acute shortage of Oxygen, leading to many shutting their doors to new admissions. Many are dying through lack of access to lifesaving healthcare. Overrun crematoria reveal a very different story to the relatively low official death count, and the health system's intensive care limitations must be a worry to many.

Our partner organisation here, International Nepal Fellowship, has been supporting some of the most vulnerable with food packages, training, and medical care. The recent completion of a new Palliative Care building at Green Pastures Hospital (GPH) is also allowing the organisation to presently run this as a dedicated Covid-19 unit, making a difference locally. Having recently received a full work visa for a year, Toby has got the freedom to support GPH with infrastructure advice, and is assisting with plans for an Oxygen plant on site, which can help counter medical Oxygen shortages in Pokhara. We are grateful that we, though confined to the house, can use our available freedoms and make a difference here and now.

It is hard not to be heartbroken when hearing news of friends and friends-of-friends who are suffering from or have died from Covid. Many churches have been affected, and we have heard of the death of many Christian pastors and patriarchs here. Despite this, as in the first wave, it has been the churches who have been reaching out and ministering to those who have no hope at the moment, through food aid, contributions to crippling medical bills and pastoral care. A friend involved in distributing food through a network of remote churches recently texted us that 'we work remotely and have testimonies of people saying that they knew the Lord had seen them in their situation and provided. So more than the provision was the confirmation that God sees'. God himself frees people to act unselfishly and to be 'givers', let us praise him for that.



Please join us in prayer:

1) As people fear for themselves, for their loved ones, and for their future, please pray that God in his mercy will reveal himself to many through his word and through loving deeds, and that this time of hardship leads to unexpected blessings.

2) We are grateful for previously completed infrastructure projects which enable Green Pastures Hospital to now respond to the crisis and offer dedicated C-19 services.

3) We are grateful for the (miraculous) receipt of a work visa for Toby, allowing him to input into INF, and for us to settle into Kathmandu.

4) Please pray that Toby can connect well with other professionals at GPH across the distance, and that together they have wisdom in hospital growth and infrastructure planning, in order to facilitate the much needed specialist health service provision there.

5) We are always humbled by the dedication of our Christian brothers and sisters here. Do pray that their love and generosity will shine brightly in neighbourhoods throughout Nepal, and invite people in. Also, do pray for church and NGO leaders, and they are the face of the Christian response, and are closely watched.

6) As a family, we are physically well, and Pippa and Toby received the Sinopharm vaccine, for which we are grateful. Being in a new neighbourhood we still need to build local friendships. Parents and children alike are feeling the strain of continued states of house confinement. Please pray for a special gift of peace and endurance for all of us. We would love to have freedoms to exercise outside, as we enter the childrens' seven week school summer break. We just celebrated Ella's completion of Primary school, and she will be moving into Secondary School after the summer. Do pray that we all can start forming friendships, and find our community here in Kathmandu over the next months.

7) Please pray for an improvement of the health situation in the country, and that the nation will soon emerge from this crisis, as we near summer 2021. The annual monsoon season holds its own challenges. The receipt of more vaccine doses would make a big difference; Covax are not expecting to deliver any more vaccines now until 2022. Only 2.5% of the population are fully vaccinated.

8) Please pray for political stability. There are quite a few uncertainties with the dissolving of parliament and potential for national elections, all during a period of extreme government measures to counter the spread of C-19.

Thank you for praying. We are pleased to be here, and want to use any freedoms we have to make a difference to the local context. As we feel the fright and in parallel celebrate the freedoms we have, namely freedom in Christ, and freedom to act, we are so grateful to be connected to you all. Thank you for all the ways in which you show love, support and solidarity. Please keep in touch.

Much love from us all,

Pippa, Toby, Jakey, Ella, Millie

If you would like to support Pippa and Toby Vokuhl by prayer and committed regular giving, visit [bmsworldmission.org/partners](http://bmsworldmission.org/partners) or call 01235 517817 for a 24:7 Partners leaflet.

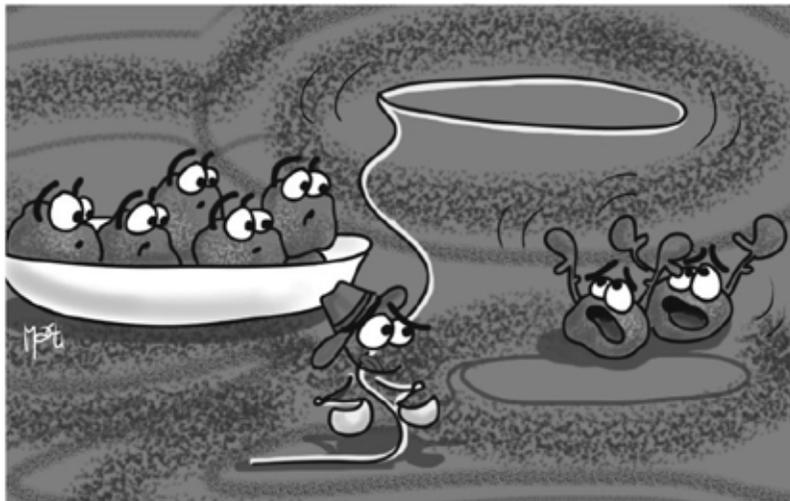


PO Box 49 129 Broadway Didcot Oxfordshire OX11 8XA Tel: 01235 517700  
mail@bmsworldmission.org bmsworldmission.org

The Baptist Missionary Society, registered in England and Wales as a charity (number 1174364) and a company limited by guarantee (number 10849689)

If there are any changes to your contact details, or you wish to unsubscribe from this prayer letter and/or other BMS communications, please contact the BMS Supporter Services Team by phone on 01235 517638, by email at [supporterservices@bmsworldmission.org](mailto:supporterservices@bmsworldmission.org) or by post to the address below. For more details on how we use and protect your data, visit [www.bmsworldmission.org/privacy](http://www.bmsworldmission.org/privacy)

## JUST OUTSIDE THE BOX



Spaghetti was always having to rope in the meatballs for dinner

# Who Let The Dads Out?

A cartoon illustration of a man in a dark shirt carrying a child on his shoulders. The child is waving. The man has a wide, happy expression.

Like most other things in our world, our Toddler Group for **pre-school children** and their Dads has been suspended for more than a year. But we are relaunching WLTDG on 8th May. So we hope to see lots of Dads and Granddads turning up for coffee and bacon rolls while the children play.

If you're a Dad or Granddad, or you know one, with an under five, then do tell them about 'Who let the Dads out?'

The date for the next session is:

10th July

*Simon*

MATTHEW 25: 35

**"FOR I WAS  
HUNGRY  
AND YOU  
GAVE ME  
SOMETHING  
TO EAT..."**



HELP US  
SUPPORT THE  
VITAL WORK OF  
FEED -  
VINEYARD  
CHURCH'S FOOD  
BANK

## ***VINEYARD CHURCH FOOD BANK***

Vineyard Church's food bank is in desperate need of essential items for their users. We arrange deliveries on Wednesdays and are happy to collect donations from you. The items they particularly need are:

***For our school kids lunch bags:***

Healthy snack/cereal bars (no chocolate, no nuts)  
Individual bottles or cartons of juice or water  
Individual fruit pots (no pineapple, please) that don't require refrigeration  
Small (10g) packs of popcorn (nothing too sweet)  
Individual crisp packets  
Rice pudding or custard pots (that do not require refrigeration)  
Tinned ham

***For our everyday items:***

Size 5, 7 and 8 Nappies  
Size 6 and 7 Pull Ups  
Microwave meals  
Fabric conditioner  
Fairy Non-Bio washing powder or liquid  
Anti-bacterial surface spray  
Tinned fish  
Tinned soup  
Tinned pulses  
Tinned fruit  
Tinned rice pudding  
Coffee  
Cow and Gate baby milk powder  
Aptamil—Anti-reflux, Comfort  
Cow & Gate powdered Baby Milk (1-40)  
Shower Gel  
Sugar  
Cuppa Soup  
Crisps  
Small bottles/cans of soft drinks, squash and water

Also, if you have any ***shopping bags*** that you do not need, especially any strong ones (Bag for Life), they are in need of some, please.

If you are able to donate any of these items, please contact Diane Saunders either by email: [dianesaunderso007@googlemail.com](mailto:dianesaunderso007@googlemail.com) or on 07989 669598.

## **Mission News**

### **Christian Aid Week**

“Stop the Climate Crisis” was the message of this year’s Christian Aid Week, and whilst we were not involved in the traditional house to house collections, we are grateful for those who contributed via the gift envelopes at the in-person services where a total, including gift aid, of £301 was raised. We’re grateful to Colin and Sue for organising the collection and also for taking part in the St Albans Churches CA Week sponsored walk.

### **Gift Day 2021**

You will be forgiven if you have been wondering what happened to DSBC’s Gift Day 2021 – well, it hasn’t! not yet anyway. Last year we deferred Gift Day to Harvest Sunday, and have decided to do the same this year, so Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September will be the ‘GIFT DAY’ and we will be supporting Operation Agri’s 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary appeal, “Go for Growth in Uganda.”



The appeal supports the sustainable Agricultural and Farming Initiative (SAFI) and the Women’s Adult Literacy Project (WALP) in Uganda.

**SAFI**, led by Pastor Paul Kyalimpa, is a project of ‘Hope Community Gracious Foundation’ of the Baptist Union of Uganda. Paul studied agriculture in UK and is keen to share his knowledge and practical farming experience. OA has supported several farming training projects led by Paul in both Uganda and Tanzania. Around 80% of peo

ple in Uganda live in rural areas, relying on subsistence farming to feed their families (including church pastors, whose congregations often cannot afford to pay them). However, many families face challenges from exhausted soils and climate change, as well as death due to AIDS, plus Covid 19 restrictions.

SAFI started in 2014 in Kyenjojo district, western Uganda, training three sets of farmers so far. Now in phase four, six groups of struggling small scale farmers are being helped, with two people selected from each group to become CFT's (Community Farmer Trainers). During two years of monthly practical courses, they learn ways to reduce the impact of climate change and conserve their environment.

**WALP** is the Women's Adult Literacy Programme. Paul's wife Christine, realised that many women were illiterate, having missed out on school. So with the help of local churches, WALP clubs were started and teachers recruited. Women learn reading, writing, and arithmetic and some men also join the classes! WALP club members encourage others to learn, and work together to improve their community. The churches are also glad that more members can read the Bible for themselves.

Paul has produced reading books in Rutoro, the local language, to teach business skills – recording produce and sales, keeping a cash book, variable and fixed costs, planning ahead. So the WALP project also helps SAFI farmers to develop marketing of their produce.

**Operation Agri** has come a long way since 1961. In the early days, OA's Purchasing Officer bought goods in the UK and arranged their export, notably day-old chicks by air freight! Land Rovers, machinery parts, animal feed supplements and solar panels for incubators etc. were sent by ship.

The Baptist Men's Movement ran Operation Agri, responding to requests from BMS agriculturalists. The first three 'farming evange

lists' were in East Pakistan (now Bangladesh), India and Congo (which then became Zaire). News came via air mail letters, from which the magazine was produced and sent to churches and 'Farming Partner' supporters. Many churches started to give their harvest festival offerings to OA. Leaflets and posters were packed and sent out by volunteers. In the days before video, both BMS and OA produced slide-sets, with commentary on cassette tape. For many years in the 80's and 90's there was a 'Joint Harvest Appeal', with income split equally between BMS and OA.

OA's support then broadened to include water supply, income generation, community health and other forms of long-lasting development (rather than relief aid). Projects in other countries were given support: such as Brazil, Nepal and Sri Lanka, often led by local people. In 1998 OA became an independent charity and is now supports projects of various partner organisations in ten countries, Nicaragua, Nepal, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Tanzania, Malawi and Mozambique, with Christian Leadership always a requirement.

Just as the magazine copy was about to go to press, we received this urgent prayer request from OA:

### **Please pray for Paul Kyalimpa in Uganda**



Paul Kyalimpa is a valued partner of Operation Agri, training farmers in sustainable agriculture. We have received news from his family that Paul is in hospital, receiving oxygen. **His condition is serious - so doctors have advised that he be moved to a hospital in the capital Kampala.** One of his sons, Moses, who was vulnerable due to disability, has died

of Covid infection.

July/August 2021

Paul's wife Christine has been caring for Paul at hospital, as relatives are expected to do, but will find this hard if he moves to Kampala, a long distance away.

URGENT PRAYER REQUESTED:

- for Paul's hospital treatment and that he will recover well.
- for Christine and the family as they mourn for Moses, and are concerned how best to support Paul.
- that friends will be able to give them practical help.  
for Uganda to be able to increase Covid vaccinations and reduce spread of the disease.

*Chris Penn*



## **Chris Hawkins**

Friends will be saddened to learn of the recent death of our former member Chris Hawkins on 9<sup>th</sup> June, just a few days short of his 91<sup>st</sup> birthday. His son Jonathan writes:

*“What a fine man he was and even in his later years he remained a pillar of strength, a source of great wisdom and encouragement to all those who had the pleasure of meeting and knowing him. I know that Dagnall Street played a huge part in both his and my family’s life, it was a place for great faith and friendship and I know that he loved to receive the church news via the newsletter each month and the personal contact of cards and letters from friends. In his final few days he was remembering Frank and Elizabeth Brough, Bill and Elizabeth Allen, Norman and Lottie Macleod, Norman and Marjorie McClelland, Peter and Joan Cook plus the passing ministers of his time and many others. Very fond memories leading him home to be with Christ and my dearest mum Audrey.”*

Chris and his wife Audrey became members here at Dagnall Street in 1960 and Chris finally moved away in 2005, shortly after Audrey’s death in 2004. Friends will remember Chris and Audrey as pillars of the Dagnall Street fellowship, active in many areas of the life of the church as they brought up their children, Jonathan and Stephanie, who we remember in our thoughts and prayers at this sad time.

*Chris Penn*

## Judy Cook

Enjoying the moment  
June 2021

[www.bmsworldmission.org/jcook](http://www.bmsworldmission.org/jcook)



Once more greetings to you from Chiang Mai, Northern Thailand. We are at last on the way through what has seemed to be an extra hot and humid season, and now enjoying the cooler rainy days. I am reminded though how fickle I (we?) am -with the rain brings storms, mad driving on the roads and washing that takes forever to dry and soon we will be longing for the hot again! May I keep learning the secret of contentment in all circumstances.

Here in Thailand the COVID situation stabilised in some areas of the country which meant that some schools began to reopen their doors. This has come as a relief to us at Hope Home having had an extended time with all 8 school attending children at home instead of out at school. However I am once more reminded to treasure the moments we had with everyone at home all day, and see what positive times and memories were being formed for us all. As I write now we have one child back in school, and possible 2 out of the remaining 5 will be allowed back in July. The other children are once more being turned away because they are deemed unable to learn to stay safe in this COVID world we now live in. Once more we, at Hope Home, will take up the fairness battle and advocate their cause for them. This is a repeat of what happened last year too and we are even more determined now to claim our children's rights and protect their worth and value. We know that they are all equally precious in God's plan and we trust in Him to open doors of opportunity once more for them.

So those treasured moments?! - well the time home with all the residential children and foster/ respite children home together has meant we can bond together more as a family. There have been long hot or wet COVID-safe masked walks through the village encouraging the children to see the beauty in the nature right on our doorstep; they have had time to play board games together and learn the necessary skills in life of sharing and waiting your turn and being happy when others win!

Each child has had special opportunity for reading and learning with staff members, and to not be rushed. Two of the older children have begun quite complex painting by numbers and after an initial uncertainty, they now look forward to time and space to do this each day. They are also thrilled to visually see their artwork emerging in shape and detail. All this to say, despite the extra busyness and pressure on us with children off school we can see the longer term benefits to us and them and thank God for these times. We will also be content when schools let them back in!



During the last two months we at Hope Home have been intentional about holding a devotional time each morning at the start of the day with all staff and children. The daily bible devotion, and joint prayer times are opening opportunities for the non Christian staff to hear God's word each day and to begin to ask questions and seek to understand more. The children love to take turns to pray, and our newer Christian staff are keen to teach us all new songs and explain about their faith. These are exciting times and I personally treasure the moments when I see the family of Hope Home worshipping God together.



So I pray I can continue to rise to the challenge- to enjoy the moments- to keep looking for the positive moments in the midst of stressful and busy times, and to keep seeing the wonderful ways God has and is providing all things at the right time. My prayer is to be content in all circumstances, to be ever full of the joy of the Lord.

Our children at Hope Home, despite their many challenges in their lives, especially those with more severe disabilities, never cease to amaze me in their contentment of life. I still have much to learn.

Pray for the staff of Hope Home to come to recognise and know Jesus for themselves, and for them to grow in their faith.

Pray for the schools to reconsider opening to all children, regardless of perceived ability.

Pray for us at Hope Home to use every opportunity to grow together as a family-treasuring and valuing each person as precious in God's eyes.

May we each find and know the peace and joy that comes only from our trust in Jesus, and may we know the secret of contentment in all circumstances. Treasure and enjoy those moments when God surprises us with precious moments in the midst of uncertain times.

Thank you for your wonderful support of BMS and your prayers especially. Please know how much your support is valued and appreciated.

Philippians 4.v.4: Always be full of joy in the Lord, I say it again-rejoice

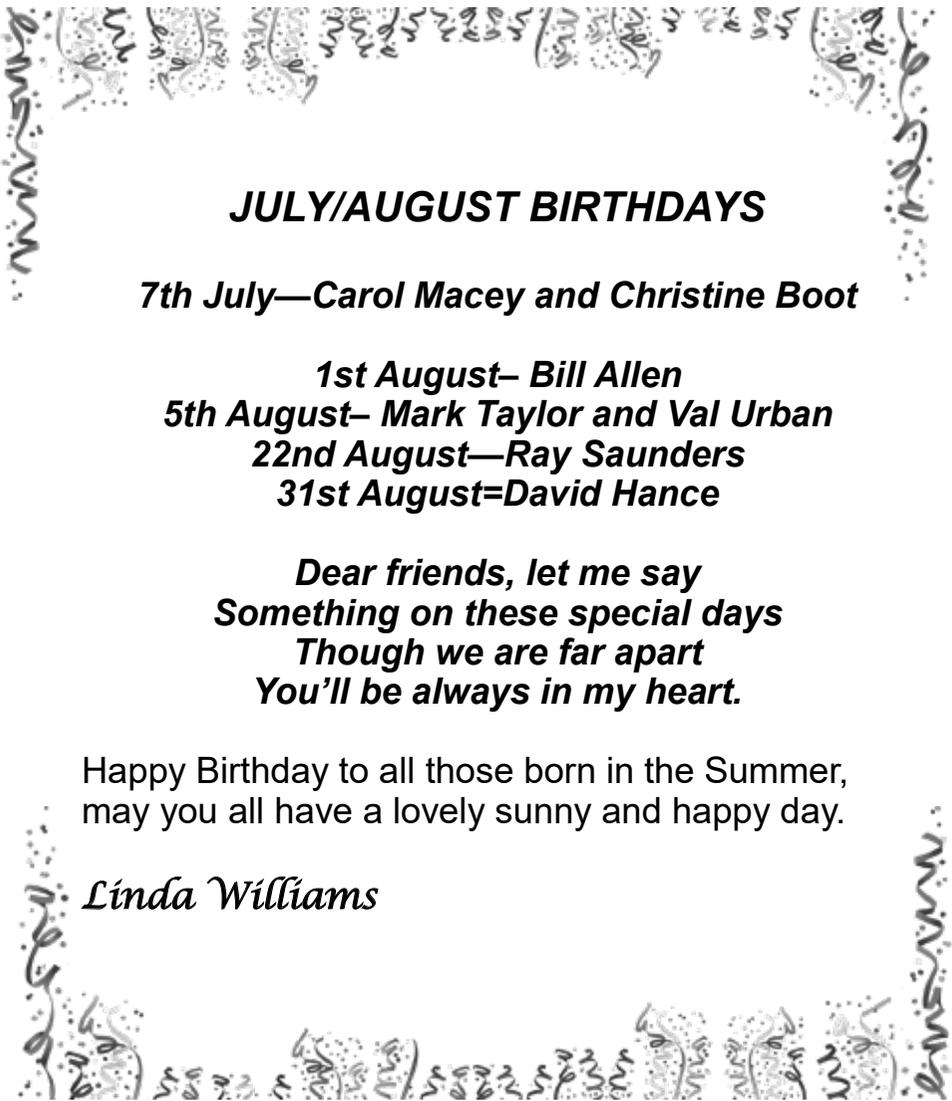
If you would like to support Judy Cook by prayer and committed regular giving, visit [bmsworldmission.org/partners](http://bmsworldmission.org/partners) or call 01235 517617 for a 24:7 Partners leaflet.



PO Box 49 129 Broadway Didcot Oxfordshire OX11 8XA Tel: 01235 517700  
mail@bmsworldmission.org bmsworldmission.org

The Baptist Missionary Society: registered in England and Wales as a charity (number 1174364) and a company limited by guarantee (number 10849689)

If there are any changes to your contact details, or you wish to unsubscribe from this prayer letter and/or other BMS communications, please contact the BMS Supporter Services Team by phone on 01235 517638, by email at [supporterservices@bmsworldmission.org](mailto:supporterservices@bmsworldmission.org) or by post to the address below. For more details on how we use and protect your data, visit [www.bmsworldmission.org/privacy](http://www.bmsworldmission.org/privacy)



**JULY/AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

**7th July—Carol Macey and Christine Boot**

**1st August— Bill Allen**

**5th August— Mark Taylor and Val Urban**

**22nd August—Ray Saunders**

**31st August—David Hance**

**Dear friends, let me say  
Something on these special days  
Though we are far apart  
You'll be always in my heart.**

Happy Birthday to all those born in the Summer,  
may you all have a lovely sunny and happy day.

*Linda Williams*

## Jesus Calms A Storm

In our June Messy Church we were challenged to make boats out of recycled materials and here are some of the results.



July/August 2021





## Minibeast Sudoku

Every row, column and mini-grid must contain the letters S P I D E R .

Don't guess - use logic

S	D	P	E	R	I
	S			E	
	R			D	
E	P	D	S	I	R



## Minibeast Sudoku

Every row, column and mini-grid must contain the letters **D R A G O N F L Y**.

Don't guess - use logic.

		O				A		
R	L						D	F
	F		L	O	D		N	
D			G	L	Y			N
N	A	F		D		Y	L	G
L			A	F	N			R
	R		O	N	A		Y	
O	G						R	A
		Y				L		



## Camping Wordsearch



awning

campfire

campsite

rucksack

sleeping bag

stove

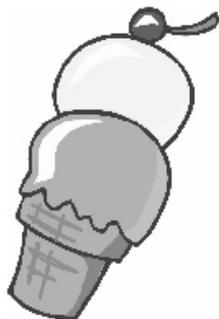
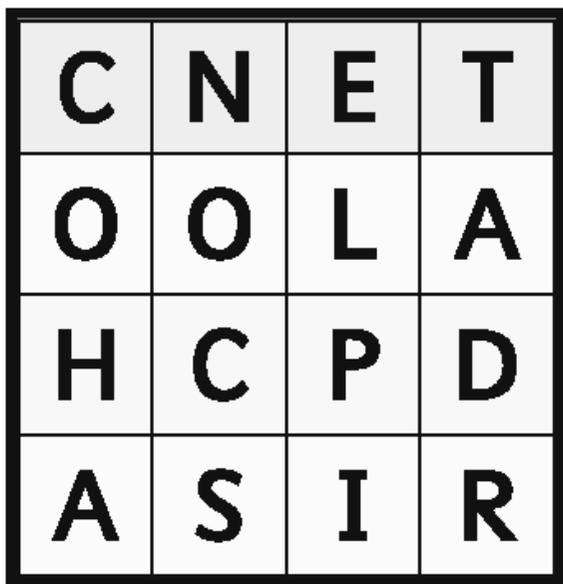
tent

torch



# Ice Cream Boggler Puzzle

How many words of 3 letters or more can you find using the letters below? Words are formed from adjoining letters. Letters must join in the proper sequence to spell a word and may join horizontally, vertically, or diagonally, to the left, right, or up-and-down. No letter square, however, may be used more than once within a single word. You may use plurals if available. Score 1 point for each 3 letter word, 2 points for 4 letter words, 3 points for 5 letter words and so on. Score an extra 2 points for every ice cream themed word that you make!



My points \_\_\_\_\_

## **SEPTERMBER ISSUE CONTRIBUTIONS BY THURSDAY, 19th AUGUST**

Summers Here! Well it was for a short time. We went from meltingly hot to monsoon in a matter of days. The garden has exploded but I am sure all this rain is not good for the tender plants in my raised bed. Already my nice neat lines have gone all wiggly and I am sure some of the plants are now in the wrong rows! My lilies and my tree peony were especially good this year, sadly they have taken a battering! I hope they will recover. I also have an acer called a Sambuca Negra and the flowers on that have been beautiful this year but they too are mostly scattered on the grass. These are the times when you could kick yourself for not taking a photograph.

This week I took my car in for a wash and valet—the first time for a year and four months! I usually take it in when I have my hair cut as the car wash place is near the hairdressers, and I haven't had my hair cut for a year and four months! I'll have to build myself up for the haircut.

Cross Street is doing well although we seem to have very busy days and not so busy days. But I thank God for it as it gives me a purpose to my week and takes me away from the 'pottering' that I seem to have got really good at during lockdown. (Pottering = wiling away the time doing nothing in particular!!)

If you have a holiday booked this summer I hope you have a lovely time and the weather improves.

*Glynis*  
**glynis.griffiths1@gmail.com**  
**01462 733665**  
**07709 618571**

## **What, When and Where July 2021**

The church is now open for in-person services at 10.30am each Sunday and these will be conducted within the current guidelines, eg. social distancing, face coverings, no singing and no mingling until further information is given. The on-line options will also continue for the foreseeable future.

After service coffee is now being served in the lower hall. Thanks to volunteers this is table service.

Monday – Friday Midday prayers on Facebook including a communion service on Wednesdays.

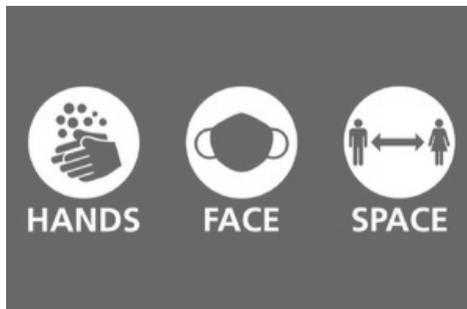
Newsletter by email.

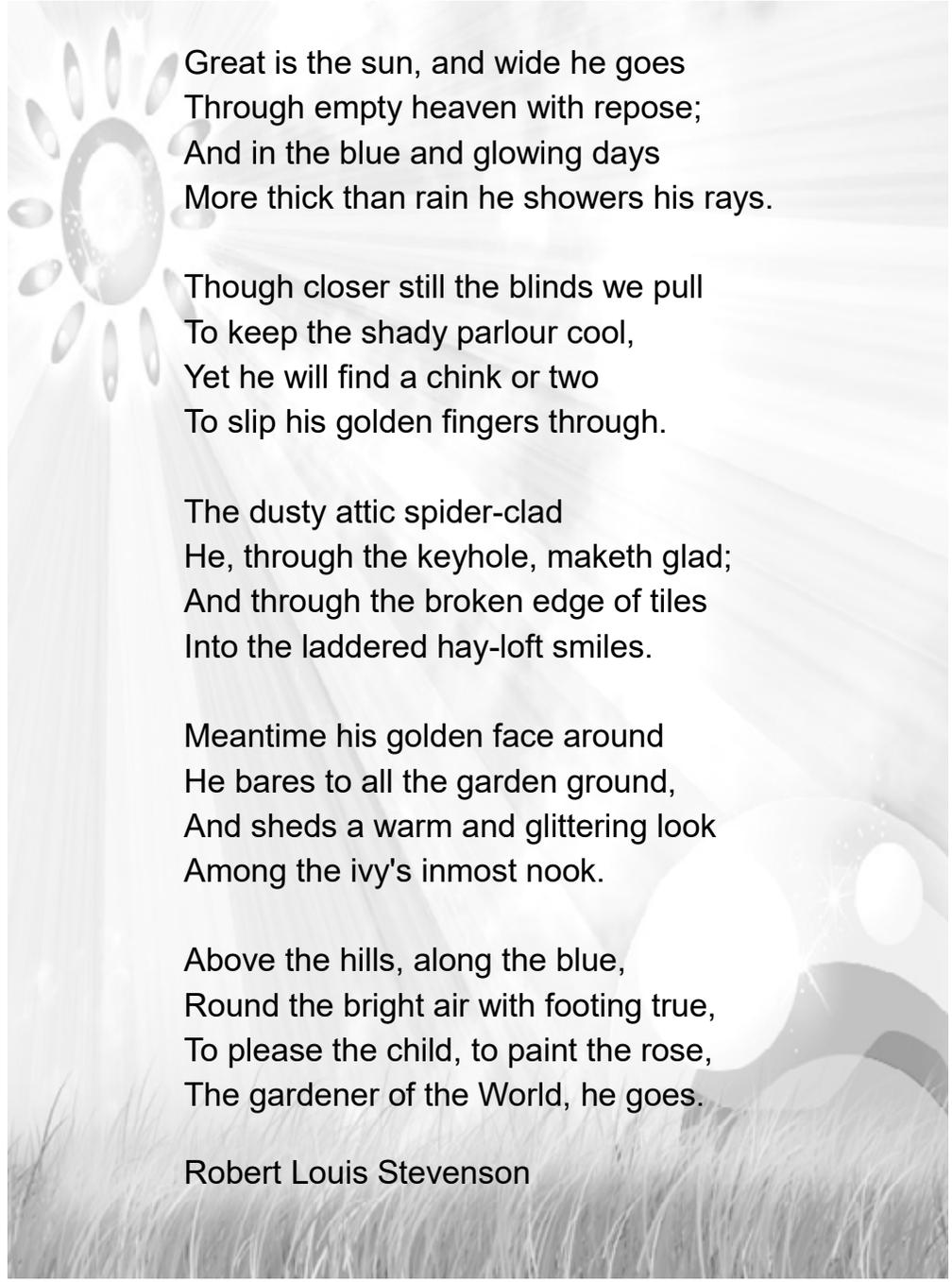
Who Let the Dads Out next session is on Saturday, 10th July.

The Cross Street Café is now open weekly from Wednesday to Saturday, 10am to 2pm.

There are no plans at the moment to open the regular activities in person such as, Toddlers, Messy Church, Scrabble, Knitting Group, Muffins with Mums, but it is always being reviewed.

Stay safe and keep in touch.





Great is the sun, and wide he goes  
Through empty heaven with repose;  
And in the blue and glowing days  
More thick than rain he showers his rays.

Though closer still the blinds we pull  
To keep the shady parlour cool,  
Yet he will find a chink or two  
To slip his golden fingers through.

The dusty attic spider-clad  
He, through the keyhole, maketh glad;  
And through the broken edge of tiles  
Into the laddered hay-loft smiles.

Meantime his golden face around  
He bares to all the garden ground,  
And sheds a warm and glittering look  
Among the ivy's inmost nook.

Above the hills, along the blue,  
Round the bright air with footing true,  
To please the child, to paint the rose,  
The gardener of the World, he goes.

Robert Louis Stevenson