



Sad News

Alma passed away just as our June Newsletter came out. We give our sympathy to all her family, and to the residents of Paxton Court where she lived.

Sharman's membership of the Church

On Sunday 28th May, Sharman was welcomed into St Johns membership with a lovely ceremony and hymns of her choice. The congregation was invited to a lunch in the back hall afterwards. This was supplied by Sharman, her family and friends, and very much enjoyed by all.



Carol B-T, Sharman, Ann M and Kate.

Ministers for July

1st July Rev Adrian Davies
 9th Rev John Hayton
 16th Rev Adrian Davies
 23rd Rev Adrian Davies
 30th Deacon Jon Miller
 6th Aug Rev Stella Hayton

Some more riddles

Answers are well known flowers and are on back page.

1. My first is from cream in dairy produced, my second at tea-time is frequently used.
2. My first is an animal hunted for sport, my second is worn, and in pairs may be bought.
3. My first may supply us with milk pure and good, my second we all would avoid if we could.

4. My first is a bird who with song greets the morn. My second by horsemen is frequently worn.

5. My first is a means of getting along. My second is a people both numerous and strong.

Bible Study

Carol would like to try a new Bible Study idea on four Mondays in July - 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st, at 11am to noon in the lower schoolroom. You are invited to come and join in and share your ideas about some well-known passages from the scriptures.

News of members

Ron Hurlow is doing well at home.

Rhys had his 16th birthday and was presented with a gift from St Johns.

Stella and John had a great holiday walking in the Black Mountains in Germany, something they can tick off their to do list.

Do you need a car?

The son of a minister, after passing his driving test, asked his father if he could use the family car, "I'll make a deal with you" said his dad "Raise your grade at college, study your Bible a little, and get your hair cut and we'll talk about it. A month later the young man raised the question again. "Son" said his father, "I'm proud of you. You've brought your grades up, you've studied the Bible diligently..... But you haven't had your hair cut". The young man paused for a minute, then said, "Dad, I've been thinking, Samson had long hair. Noah had long hair. Moses had long hair. Even Jesus had long hair." "Yes" replied his dad, "and they walked everywhere they went."

Cares

Put off your cares with your garments, whether they be public or private, so that you may sleep better, but resume them in the morning. *Sir John Harington 1623*



The Organ

On Sunday 28th May at Sharman's membership service, Mollie moved from the piano to play the last hymn on the newly reconstructed organ. It is the first time in church it has been used since the start of Covid. The ceiling above has also been repaired and looks good again.



Congratulations to Laura and Anne



Laura came first in a flower arrangement competition at Haverford west. Anne was runner up. Well done to you both and

thanks for all the flowers most Sundays.

Teddy Bear Festival at St Johns

This starts on 9th August. Please talk to Ann M, Carol B-T or Caroline if you have any bears to loan, or are able to help stewarding.

Woke

This word has a new meaning....

Woke means awakened to the needs of others. To be well informed, thoughtful, compassionate, humble, and kind. Eager to make the world a better place for all people.

With time women gain weight...

Because we accumulate so much knowledge and wisdom in our heads that there is no more room in there and it distributes it to the rest of our bodies. So, we aren't heavy, we are enormously educated, cultured, and happy. Beginning today, when I look in the mirror I will think "good grief...look how smart I am".
Silversurfers.

Bed in Summer by Robert Louis Stevenson.

In winter I get up at night and dress by yellow candlelight.

In summer quite the other way,

I have to go to bed by day.

I have to go to bed and see the birds still hopping in the trees.

Or hear the grown-up people's feet still going past me in the street.

And does it not seem hard to you when all the sky is clear and blue

And I should like so much to play,

I have to go to bed by day?

Plant a tree by Natalia Roshina

Plant a tree for you and me

If we all plant a tree

We will see how our world easily transformed into a magic world.

Plant a lemon tree

Plant an apple tree for you and me.

Plant a tree.

Tree is joy, pure joy for you and me

Plant a garden for honeybee

Flower garden for honeybee

Tree Power Hug a tree

Pray to a tree Talk to a tree

Embrace a tree Protect a tree Worship a tree

Don't kill a tree.



Reading a book....

Life is like a book, some chapters are sad, some happy and some exciting. But if you never turn a page, you will never know what the next chapter holds!

Wildflowers at Templeton on Sunday 11th June

Stella and John, Sue and Ian, Shirley, Anne and Russ met at Templeton United Reformed Church to explore the graveyard and wildflower meadow adjacent. Being unfertilised for ages and experiencing a microclimate it is home to rare weaker plants. Strawberries with cream or ice cream or a salad-enhanced Pimms were enjoyed outside



in the sun. It was a great afternoon meeting with members from other churches. Sue

checking her answers to the quiz on wild flowers and the graves of Templeton Church. Thanks go to PAVS for making this possible.

Answers to the Riddles on well-known flowers 1. Buttercup 2. Foxglove 3. Cowslip 4. Larkspur 5. Carnation

St Mary Magdalene Feast Day

This is celebrated on 22nd July. Jesus drove seven demons from Mary, who then became his follower to the bitter end. She followed him to Jerusalem and was present during the crucifixion, standing heart-broken at the foot of the cross. She went to the tomb to anoint his body, and so was one of the first to meet Jesus after his resurrection. Mary Magdalene was the first person to spread the good news.

She shows us how sinners and outcasts can be reconciled by the love of Christ.

Death

Death is no more than passing from one room to another. But there's a difference for me you know. Because in that other room I shall be able to see. *Helen Keller*

Sea Sunday

The service will be in the Harbour at 3pm on Sunday 9th July. The Salvation Army band will play, Revd Andrew Grace will lead worship and our preacher will be Revd Jonathan ?? of Deer Park.

We wish a very **Happy Retirement** to Captain Linda Read of the Salvation Army, whose final service was held on 25th June.

The **General Assembly** of the United Reformed Church meets from Friday 30th June to Monday 3rd July in Swanwick, Derbyshire. The meeting will be live-streamed (see URC website) and John, Stella and Kate will be there. Please keep Assembly in your prayers.

Revd Lorette Hinson's final service will be at Carew Methodist Church at 3pm on 2nd July. All invited. We wish her God's richest blessing in this next phase of her ministry.

Pilgrims from South Korea are visiting Pembrokeshire from 2nd to 9th July and will be joining with local churches and praying for the area, which is special to them because of the role of Robert Jermain Thomas in bringing Christianity to Korea.

Pilgrimage to Israel, October 2024

This is being led by Revd Hugh-John Wilson, if you would like to learn more there will be a presentation at Hall Street, Llanelli on 24th July at 7.30 (refreshments at 7pm)



Eldership

When a member feels called to the ministry of eldership within the church, they may be elected by the membership, then ordained into that ministry for life, though serving for a term. Promises are made and prayers, the statement of purpose is read out, it includes this description of the ministry of eldership . . .

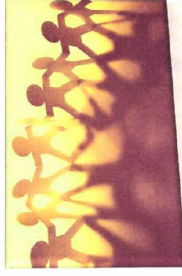
Elders share with the minister in the pastoral oversight and leadership of the local church. To each is normally entrusted a group of members. In the elders' meeting they take counsel together for the whole congregation. They are responsible for making provision for Christian worship and education, for maintaining proper standards of membership, and for promoting witness and service to the community, mission at home and abroad, and the peace, unity and welfare of the Church. It is their duty to arrange for the proper maintenance of church buildings, and to ensure the oversight of church finances. Some elders represent the local church in the wider councils of the Church, and by virtue of their membership of these councils represent the whole Church to the local church."



Time to Reflect

Reflecting on the quote above from the URC service book, "service for the induction of elders"

- What do you think is the role of the eldership within the ministry of the church?
- Some elders are recognised within the church as Local Church Leaders. What is the role of a Local Leader?
- Both of our colleges, Northern Manchester and Westminster Cambridge deliver regular courses specially designed for elders. Might you go to one of these? Our Synod also provides training. Would you be interested?



What does the Bible say about Eldership?

Take a look at the following Bible passages:

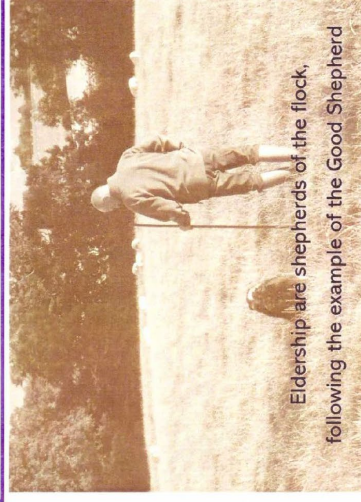
1 Timothy 5:17-20; Titus 1:5-9; James 5:14-15; 1 Peter 5:1-5

There is no 'Dummies Guide to Being an Elder' in the Bible. However, there is a good guide about the role of the eldership throughout the Scriptures. For example, looking through the passages above we discover that elders ought to be appointed in every place. These people should be of good standing and good character. They are to be shepherds of the flock and managers of God's household. They are to direct the affairs of the church. They are to be people of prayer, indeed to have a prayer ministry.

Watching over the flock, they are eager to serve. Service is a key word, Elders are warned not to lord it over the people, but rather to be examples of the Christian life, perhaps as described in Philipians 2:1-11, a servant ministry just as Jesus' ministry is. Furthermore, elders are accountable to the members. They are to be trustworthy with the Gospel and sound in their doctrine.

As with all service in the church we are not, for example, a fully formed elder at ordination, but we grow and learn and develop into the role, in life-long learning.

Take time to discuss the importance of Elders in your church. How might your church support and encourage your elders?



Eldership are shepherds of the flock, following the example of the Good Shepherd



A prayer for those considering eldership

Loving God, guide me now as I seek to find your way for me. Create in me a renewed dedication to your service. Set before me the example of Christ Jesus. Fill me with the wisdom of the Holy Spirit. This I pray, trusting in your grace. Amen

Time to Respond

- Pray for the elders in your church, giving thanks for their commitment and ministry.
- Do you know someone in your church who has the right qualities to become an elder?
- Is God calling you to the ministry of eldership?