

DAGNALL STREET BAPTIST CHURCH
AND
CROSS STREET CENTRE ST ALBANS



JULY/AUGUST 2026

MAGAZINE

Free

Minister: Mark Welch

Church Secretary: Chris Penn

Finance Deacon: Trevor Oakley

Property: Ray Saunders

Site Manager and Caretaker: David Hobbs

Cross Street: 01727 846891

Bookings: bookings@dsbc.org.uk

Charity Registration Number: 1127791



***FREE CHURCH SERVICES
St Albans Cathedral***

This service is celebrated monthly on the first Wednesday of every month at 11am with our Free Church Chaplain and other ministers.

For further information:

Contact: Rev Simon Carver
simoncarver@btinternet.com

More details in the magazine

JULY SERVICES

5th July	'What is truth?' Mt.5: 33-37 Communion Rev Mark Welch
12th July	All Age Family Worship
19th July	'Hubris versus Humility' Mt.5: 38-42 Rev Mark Welch
26th July	'Bearing the family likeness' Mt.5: 43-48 Rev Mark Welch



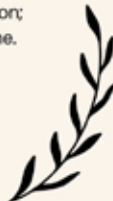
AUGUST SERVICES

2nd August	'How to bring people to Jesus' Mt.6: 1-20 Communion Rev Mark Welch
9th August	Morning Worship Paul Brookes Abbotts Langley
16th August	Morning Worship Megan Thompson
23rd August	The Lord's Prayer 1 Mt.6: 9-10 Rev Mark Welch
30th August	The Lord's Prayer 2 Mt.6: 11-14 Rev Mark Welch

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from the evil one.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.

Amen.



George Frideric Handel

Dear Friends

It's become fashionable for people who have no faith to describe themselves as Cultural Christians.

What this means in reality is that they are pandering to what has been incorrectly labelled as Christian Nationalism. Christian Nationalism is an oxymoron because Jesus spent most of his time with people Jesus' national religion claimed were unclean or unacceptable. Jesus rejected nationalism in both his teaching and. His actions.

When someone says I am a cultural Christian, they are using coded language to say I'm anti-immigrant, anti-other religions. I want society to go back to how it used to be before immigration.

There are multiple problems with this kind of attempt to appeal to this fearful intolerance.

Firstly, the idea that immigration is a recent thing is nonsense. My DNA was analysed recently. Although I am white and born in the UK, my DNA contains significant elements of Italian, Dutch, German, Ukrainian, Greek and Scandinavian ancestry. My DNA gives the lie to the idea of British ethnicity, or that immigration to these islands is a recent thing. My DNA shows that we have been trading with, invaded by and interacting intimately with people from other nations and cultures since the Bronze Age.

Another problem with the idea of being a cultural Christian is that cultural Christians don't exist. There's one thing and one thing only that makes someone a Christian: a personal decision to believe in the resurrection of Jesus and follow the teachings of Jesus Christ. Being born in this country does not make anyone a Christian. A nostalgic desire for an imagined past that never existed does not make anyone a Christian.

Some of the rioters in Belfast and Southampton have talked about "Protecting our women." Inferring that violence against women is coming predominantly from different cultures or ethnic

ities. But Police analysis of the data of protesters arrested for violence shows that one in five of them have previous convictions for domestic violence. In the general population, the proportion of convictions for domestic violence is one in every 1263 people, meaning that the violent protestors are 252.6 times more likely to have been convicted for domestic violence than the general population, including ethnic minorities.

When talking about the last judgment, Jesus tells a story about a person surprised to be admitted into heaven who says,

And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.

If you want to be a Christian, if you want to get into heaven, believe in Jesus and follow Jesus' teaching, which includes welcoming the stranger in our midst.

Mark





World Cup Alphabet Challenge

Can you come up with a football World Cup themed word for each letter of the alphabet?

A _____

B _____

C _____

D _____

E _____

F _____

G _____

H _____

I _____

J _____

K _____

L _____

M _____

N _____

O _____

P _____

Q _____

R _____

S _____

T _____

U _____

V _____

W _____

X _____

Y _____

Z _____



PASTORAL TEAM

The 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.

Martin Taylor (07787 555730), Marjorie Jones (01727 422930), Jill Potter (07779 797928), Liz Blight (07884 431051) and Alison Ashmore (01727 867335), are active members of the Pastoral Team.

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

Mark Welch



July/August 2026

PASTORAL NEWS

I have always prided myself on not collecting too much 'stuff', however, on turning out cupboards and drawers, prior to moving, I am quite ashamed to find more than when I moved here five years ago. Compared to many people across the world we are all relatively wealthy, even the poorest of us. We have running water, perhaps the greatest gift of all. Perhaps we could all find some 'stuff' either for recycling or passing on to agencies where it can be put to good use.

The following is an extract from William Barclay writing about the first chapter of John's gospel.

“Jesus is the one who, amid the shadows, makes things clear. Who at the many crossroads of life, shows us the right way. Who, in the baffling moments of decision, enables us to choose right and who, amid the many voices which clamour for allegiance, tells us what to believe.”

Again, by and large, we seem to have kept a fairly healthy church congregation and friends. But there are those who need not only ongoing prayers but for those who are suddenly unwell or in hospital. We are glad Christine (Boot) is recovering from a bad bout of shingles. It was lovely to see Val (Urban) and Jane (Swain) who continue to make good progress.

Many people will be going away visiting or on holiday and we pray that they return to us safe and well.

We need to remember and give ongoing prayers to the following people:

Elizabeth and Bill Allen, Jack and Brenda Passmore, John Peters, Krisztina Shreiner, Olly Branch and family, Velma, Tom and family, Ruth Sayers, Jennie Johnson, Jan Morse and family.

Marjorie





Birthday scheme



Be a blessing on
your birthday.
Transform a life.

Join your church's Birthday Scheme today to change lives with BMS World Mission. Go to www.bmsworldmission.org/birthday to find out how your birthday can make a difference.

Your Birthday Scheme Co-ordinator is:

LINDA WILLIAMS

Photo: Each year, gifts to the Birthday Scheme save lives at Guinebor II Hospital in Chad.

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



JULY BIRTHDAYS

7th - Christine Boot

***Glory be to God for dappled things -
All things counter, original, spare, strange;
Whatever is fickle, freckled,
(Who knows how)
With swift, slow, sweet, sour, a dazzle, dim;
He fathers forth whose beauty is past change:
Praise Him.***

Gerald Manley Hopkins 1844~89

**Happy Birthday, Christine!
And to all those with birthdays this month.**

Linda Williams



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1st - Bill Allen

5th - Val Urban & Mark Taylor

19th - Janis Morse & Pippa Vokuhl (in Nepal)

23rd - Ray Saunders

Summer

In lovely harmony

The wood has put on it's green mantle,

And Summer is on the throne,

Playing it's string music,

Hush! Listen!

The world is alive.

I don't know where this comes from.

I realise that several people in these 2 months have been unwell. I hope that they are feeling better and will enjoy their special day.

Linda Williams

July/August 2026

**DAGNALL STREET BAPTIST CHURCH
ST ALBANS, AL3 5EE**



ALL AGE FAMILY WORSHIP

**Come and join us on
Sunday, 12th July
10.30 a.m.**

**There is no All Age Family Worship
during August**

**All are welcome to any of our services and activities
Do just come along, we would love to see you
There are activities, crafts and games for
children at all our
services**



**Our Cross Street Café is open for everyone
Wednesday – Saturday, 10am – 2pm**

Serving a range of drinks, meals and delicious cakes

Dagnall Street Baptist Church and Cross Street Centre Magazine

DAGNALL STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

ST ALBANS, AL3 5EE



TODDLERS

Wednesday mornings at 9.45 am

(Maximum limit of 30 Adults)

£2 donation per family; Refreshments provided

**Meeting every Wednesday during term-time
in the Lower Hall**

Entrance via the church car park

The last meeting for the Summer Term is on Wednesday 24th June

***The first meeting for the Autumn Term is on Wednesday,
9th September***

**All are welcome to any of our services and activities.
Please come along and join us**



**Our Cross Street Café is open for everyone
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Serving a range of drinks, meals and delicious cakes

DAGNALL STREET BAPTIST CHURCH
ST ALBANS, AL3 5EE



Who Let the Dads Out (WLTD0)

Meets on the Second Saturday of each month

**£2 donation per family; Refreshments provided
For Dads, Grandads, Uncles etc..**

Taking place in the Lower Hall

Entrance via the church car park

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON

Saturday, 11th July

10-11.15am

There is no meeting during August

**All are welcome to any of our services and activities.
Please come along and join us**



**Our Cross Street Café is open for everyone
Wednesday – Saturday, 10am – 2pm**

Serving a range of drinks, meals and delicious cakes

MANIPUR SUMMER BARBECUE
SATURDAY
4th JULY



Our SUMMER BARBECUE will be held on
SATURDAY, 4th JULY
12 noon to 3pm

12 Worcester Road, Hatfield
AL10 0DX

***Donations to be given to the Emmanuel School,
Manipur***

Everyone welcome, whatever the weather!

Muriel & Kai





Available to buy from Amazon.

If you want more information you can email the author
at: anthonybanksbooks@gmail.com

Judy Cook

Thankfulness

June 2026

bmsworldmission.org/jcook



Greetings from a warm UK, and also from my colleagues in Thailand. I am currently on Home Assignment here visiting churches, and spending wonderful time face to face with family and friends. I am so thankful for this opportunity to reconnect with you, and thankful for the warmth of welcome and hospitality in this time. What I really enjoy is the long bright evenings, which we do not have in Thailand, and the refreshing blue skies and spring/summer flowers all around. I thank God for the beauty of His creation.

Whilst I have been here on Home Assignment since the end of April, it has been a time to reflect on the amazing goodness of God, and to share that goodness with gratitude. Firstly I am thankful to God for His protection and provision through all the travelling, whether by car or train. The journeys have been smooth and the visits to churches have been so warm and welcoming. I am so thankful for the partnerships of the local churches with BMS and for your commitment. Thank you for the opportunities to share updates from Thailand and link deeper with you in mutual prayer support and encouragement. I look forward to the last week home being with all our BMS colleagues and partners on the EXPECT 28 retreat and to the strengthening of partnership. I am thankful for this opportunity.



At Hope Home we are so blessed and encouraged by the way God protects and provides, just at the right time. Just prior to me coming away our trusty old vehicle gave up and was declared unable to be repaired. Thankfully just at that time some mission colleagues of ours were also leaving Thailand and wanting to sell their vehicle. This was exactly the type that was on our wishlist and the price needed matched what we had already saved up and set aside for such a time as this. Thankfully all in good timing, and with logistical help from my TBMF colleagues all has gone smoothly and our staff and children are enjoying cool steady journeys again and our driver much relieved to not be dreading breaking down. God is so good and His timing and provision was perfect.



Some of you may recall that about this time last year all the children at Hope Home and half the staff became very sick with Dengue fever. After the required wait time post illness we are now halfway through the vaccination process for all the children, and had hoped this meant no more dengue. We are protecting the surroundings from mosquitoes as much as is possible with a fairly open house too. Unfortunately since I have been away one child has yet again got dengue fever, but he, praise God has recovered well with minimal hospital intervention and none others succumbed.

We thank God that He has kept us safe, and brought swift healing to the one boy. I am so thankful to God for His hand of protection over our vulnerable young people, and for the provision of health care that is open and available to us too. God is so good and I am so thankful.



So as I consider leaving family and friends again to return to Thailand, I can do so in the confidence that God is in control, and He knows all our needs and He does provide. For both Hope Home and also at the Social Development Service Unit of the CCT we are heading into a new season of new challenges, and continuation of what is already taking place.

I am thankful for the knowledge and certain hope that God goes ahead of us, and He guides our next steps. My prayer is to be willing to hear, ready to obey and step out in faith and disciplined to keep following His path only. With so much evidence on a daily basis of God's care and provision, and so much to be daily thankful for, why would I, why would any of us, not continue to seek to keep walking in His will.

Please uphold the staff and young people of Hope Home in your prayers, especially those who do not yet know our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ for themselves.

Pray for the staff and ministry of the Social Development and Services Unit of the CCT to keep being a beacon of light in the communities they serve.

Please pray for me as I return to Thailand again, for good 'goodbyes' in the UK and for wisdom in the next steps.

Thank you for the amazing support and encouragement you bring to me personally, and to the wider ministries across BMS. We are partners together and in that partnership, as we share our stories, we have much to be thankful for. We rejoice together and we have the peace of God in our hearts. Praise God.

Philippians 4.v.6 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God and the peace of God which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ.

If you would like to support Judy Cook by prayer and committed regular giving, visit bmsworldmission.org/247 or call 01235 517617 for a 24:7 Partners leaflet.



BMS
24:7 partners
in partnership with



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 or by post to the address below. For more details on how we use and protect your data, visit www.bmsworldmission.org/privacy

MISSION NEWS

Baptist Union Prayer Diary July 2026

5th July: The Baptist World Alliance Annual Gathering meets this week in Toronto, Canada. Please pray for our Baptist sisters and brothers as they meet to pray, fellowship, learn, and rededicate themselves to pursuing God's mission as a global Baptist family: One Gospel, Many Peoples. www.baptistworld.org/annual-gathering

12th July: This week we pray for the South Wales Baptist Association, which exists to encourage the building and development of healthy churches and to enable them to assist each other in mission in their community, in Wales and in the world. www.southwalesba.org.uk

19th July: As the UK Parliament enters its summer recess, please do pray for our MPs and those elected as councillors and representatives. You could also consider writing a card or letter to your MP to show the work that your church is doing in the community, that you are praying for them in their role and to invite them to a service or event to get to know them better. www.jpit.uk/can

26th July: Pray for safe travels for all those going away over the summer break, for those working in the holiday industry that it may be a time of fruitful occupation and for all that there may be times of rest and relaxation.



CHURCH IN THE CAFE

Fourth Sunday in the month

4pm

On **24th May** we were delighted to welcome back Judy Cook, our BMS Church Partner on home assignment from Thailand where she founded and runs Hope Home for special needs children in Chiang Mai. She shared news of BMS and her work in Thailand during the morning service and then joined us for a fellowship lunch, for which we gratefully thank Diane and Ray and their team.

After lunch we convened in the centre for a Q&A session with Judy before she and her dad made their way back to Bromsgrove.

By the time you read this she will be back in Thailand and you can read her recent prayer letter with updates about her home assignment visits, elsewhere in this magazine.

28th June We look forward to hearing from David and Vera Pineiro who have recently returned from a furlough trip back to South America (Brazil and Argentina). They will be updating us on their work with YWAM (Youth With A Mission) in Harpenden and their recent trip home.

26th July We will be meeting, but at the time of publication we are unable to confirm arrangements. So please put the date in your diary and come along if you are able.

There will not be meeting during August.

If you have any thoughts, ideas or suggestions for future Church in the Café, please let me know.

Everyone is very welcome to these informal gatherings in Cross Street as we meet together over tea and cake.





UNLOCK WALK THANKYOU

We recently received this acknowledgement from Unlock, following their London sponsored walk in April, which a group from DSBC took part in.

“Thank you for your support during this year’s London Walk. The sponsorship raised by Dagnall Street Baptist church and other donations received are very much appreciated and will help us to:

- **Unlock** real life stories of urban people
- **Reveal** Good News of the Down to Earth Christ
- **Release** life changing skills and confidence - Through -
- **Developing** new Unlock Local partnership projects in UK cities.
- **Developing** partnerships with other agencies, which will extend Unlock’s reach and frontline impact.
- **Providing** Unlock training to other agencies working in deprived urban areas.

We rely on the walk to generate around 70% of our running costs each year, so your support is crucial to the work we do in deprived urban areas in the UK.

*We look forward to seeing you at our next walk on **17th April 2027!** Once again, thank you for all your support.*

Yours sincerely,

*Nguemo Takon
(On behalf of the Chief Officer Dawn Lonsdale)”*



WORLD REFUGEE DAY

A recent email from BMS asks that we join in Prayer as we remember **World Refugee Day**.

When Serhii, a Ukrainian pastor, felt called by God to go to France, he was confused. Why would God want him there? But Serhii faithfully went. Then in 2022 Russia invaded Ukraine and, as thousands of Ukrainian refugees arrived in France, it all began to make sense.

When people are forced from their homes by conflict or disaster, they often have to leave everything behind - their place of safety, their belongings, and their church and the spiritual support network that gave.

As Serhii was already established in France, he found himself in a unique position to help and has been instrumental in creating a network of accredited Baptist pastors from Ukraine, planting new congregations among refugees. This has not only provided a spiritual home for people away from their church but has provided opportunities to reach out to others and share Christ with them.

Thanks to your support, BMS Mission Workers **Philip and Rosemary Halliday** have been working alongside the Federation of

French Baptists to encourage pastors working with refugees and facilitate this work. A recent audit showed that an incredible **50% of all French Baptist churches have activities aimed at ministering to refugees and asylum seekers**; from sharing church buildings for worship to providing practical support for families in need.

World Refugee Day was 20 June, but although the day will have passed by the time you read this, it doesn't stop us from praying. An international day designated by the United Nations to honour refugees around the globe, it shines a light on the rights, needs and dreams of those forced to flee and offers us an opportunity to pray for people away from their home church and to thank God for the congregations around the world who are 'welcoming the stranger'.

Your prayers make a difference so please pray that all people forced from their homes will find welcome in the Church.

Prayers for the World:

Philip and Rosemary Halliday are currently in the UK on home assignment. Please pray for energy for all the events and church visits they have during this time and pray for rest among the busyness.

Thank you for your prayers for BMS partner All4Aid! Please pray for wisdom and adaptability for staff at All4Aid as they navigate changes in the refugee situation on Lesbos. Pray that visas would be approved for long-term workers moving to the island.

Pray for peace in conflict zones, so that fewer people are forced to flee their homes.

Chris Penn

Scrabble Club



DSBC Scrabble Club is on the ***first and third*** Tuesday of the month from ***14:30 to 16:30***.

Tuesday 7th and 21st July
Tuesday 4th and 18th August

All are welcome.

So come along to the Cross Street Centre and give it a try.

Speak to me for further information.

Colin Owen

FOODBANK

Can you add one extra thing to your weekly shop?

There is even more need for food bank donations in the St Albans area. All DSBC food donations are now sent to the St Albans and District Foodbank run by the Trussel Trust Charity whose depot is in Redbourn, who also collect from the Foodbank baskets placed in many of the local supermarkets and the Town Hall and the Verulamium museums.

You can now access the shopping list needs on a free app called 'Bank the food', however, it seems that the most urgent needs are:

LONG LIFE JUICE
LONG LIFE MILK
MULTI SURFACE CLEANER
LUNCH BOX SNACKS
TINNED CUSTARD
TUNNED FRUIT
TINNED MEAT

If you want to see the full list but cannot get the app speak to me.

If we just add one item to our shopping list we can bring it with us on a Sunday and I can ensure it is taken to a collection point.

Many thanks

Diane





Project Hail Mary

The film *Project Hail Mary* is based on a book of the same name that was written by Andy Weir, an author known for basing science *fiction* on science *fact*. His latest film adaptation is about an astronaut alone and far from his home planet. Ryland Grace is a high school teacher who wakes up in a space ship with no memory of how he got there. We, the viewers, share his voyage of discovery as he tries to work out where he is and what he is supposed to be doing. The viewer learns this through flashbacks, while for Ryland it is a case of waiting for his memory to return. We discover that he has reached his destination more than 11 light years from earth on a mission to save the sun from cooling down.

It would take longer than this review allows to explain why the sun was dying and how he had managed to travel so far and so fast from earth and how he was supposed to save the sun. So you will have to take it on trust that the plot makes this seem viable.

Ryan Gosling – always charming – is particularly well-suited to the role of the out-of-his-depth teacher stuck in space. The film is very funny at times and is also soft-hearted especially in its depiction of the relationship that

develops between Ryland and the alien lifeform he names 'Rocky' because he looks like, well, a rock. This is a science fiction film that is not just for fans of science fiction. It is genuinely 'feelgood'.

The idea of sacrifice is central to the film's plot. Ryland is sent on what is expected to be a suicide mission to save the world. When he is knocked unconscious, Rocky breaks out of his spacesuit and risks his life in order to save his human friend. Ryland returns the 'favour' by ... you'll have to see the film to find out!

Sacrifice is central to the message of the Christian Gospel. Before Ryland is sent into space, he says to the leader of the project, "So, you really think all this is going to work?" She replies, "God willing," to which he responds, "You believe in God?" Her answer is, "Beats the alternative." For Christian people, there is *no* alternative to the conviction that we have a God who loves us and whose Son has sacrificed himself to save us.

Simon





WORLD CUP WINNERS



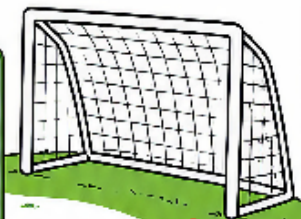
Can you find out where the World Cup was held, and which country won, in each of these years?

YEAR	LOCATION	WINNERS
1990		
1994		
1998		
2002		
2006		
2010		
2014		
2018		
2022		
2026		Your guess! 



BONUS QUESTION!

In which year did England win the World Cup, and where?



July/August 2026



World Cup 2026

World Cup 2026 will be the first to have 48 teams competing - not just 32! This means that the top two teams from each group, plus the eight best third-placed teams, will progress into a 32-team knockout stage.

The reigning World Cup champions are Argentina. Who will win the World Cup 2026?

Fun Facts about the World Cup

Expanded Tournament, More Excitement

With 48 teams and 104 matches, this World Cup will be the largest edition yet, offering more chances for upsets and underdog stories!

A Spectacle at the Final

For the very first time in World Cup history, the final will feature a halftime show, rather like to the Super Bowl. Coldplay is rumoured to be helping select the performers. Something to look forward to!

A Tri-Nation Hosting First

This is the first time three countries have shared hosting duties. While the United States and Mexico have hosted before, Canada will be hosting the men's World Cup for the first time ever.

The Host Countries United States, Canada and Mexico

The 2026 FIFA World Cup will take place **from June 11 to July 19, 2026**, and for the first time in history, it will be co-hosted by three countries - [United States](#), [Mexico](#) and [Canada](#) - across 16 cities in North America.

Mexico City's Estadio Azteca will host the opening match, and the grand finale will be held at MetLife Stadium in New Jersey. The tournament will span 104 matches over 39 match days, making it longer and broader than any previous World Cup.



DESIGN A FOOTBALL SHIRT FOR THE WORLD CUP!



Create your own amazing football shirt for the World Cup.
Use your favourite colours, patterns and any symbols you like!

TEAM NAME

COLOURS I WILL USE

MY SHIRT INCLUDES...

★ A SYMBOL:

★ A PATTERN:

★ SOMETHING THAT REPRESENTS MY COUNTRY:

★ SOMETHING THAT INSPIRES ME:



© www.ActivityVillage.co.uk

ActivityVillage



This is the story of how I came to lift the World Cup. It started out as a perfectly normal day. I got rudely awakened by my alarm at 7am, dressed, brushed my teeth and went down for breakfast. It was at breakfast that I got the first surprise of the day.



AT GRASS

The eye can hardly pick them out
From the cold shade they shelter in,
Till wind distresses tail and mane;
Then one crops grass, and moves about
- The other seeming to look on -
And stands anonymous again.

Yet fifteen years ago, perhaps
Two dozen distances sufficed
To fable them: faint afternoons
Of Cups and Stakes and Handicaps,
Whereby their names were artificed
To inlay faded, classic Junes -

Silks at the start: against the sky
Numbers and parasols: outside,
Squadrons of empty cars, and heat,
And littered grass: then the long cry
Hanging unhushed till it subside
To stop-press columns on the street.

Do memories plague their ears like flies?
They shade their heads. Dusk brims the shadows.
Summer by summer all stole away,
The starting-gates, the crowds and cries -
All but the unmolesting meadows.
Almanacked, their names live; they

Have slipped their names, and stand at ease,
Or gallop for what must be joy,
And not a fieldglass sees them home,
Or curious stop-watch prophesies:
Only the groom, and the groom's boy,
With bridles in the evening come.



ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES



Let's remind ourselves of the items we can undertake as a church.

Food Bank

A list of items we can give to support this are listed in the church magazine.

Any items can be taken to the Town Hall (11am to 5pm, please check times)

TWAM -Tools with A Mission.

Any items of hand and machine tools to support people in overseas countries to help them be self-sufficient. Any tool items can be taken to Marshalswick Baptist Free Church, Sherwood Ave. St Albans, on any Thursday afternoon.

TWAM leaflets are in the leaflet rack in the Centre, or if you require further details contact me.

Emmaus; who recycle old furniture as well as supporting people who are homeless.

Used Postage Stamps for local charity. Please leave in the box on the link table

Due to circumstances, I will no longer be attending Car Boot sales, so any items can be taken to your local Charity shop of choice.

We can all play our part with environmental issues in protecting God's planet.

Recycling you can undertake at home:

Recycle Paper - Cardboard Tin – Glass and Plastic with the council waste collection.

Recycle food waste and plants in a compost bin, if you can.

Many thanks in anticipation

Trevor Oakley



Table Tennis – Snooker – Pool and other Indoor Games



***THIS ACTIVITY HAS NOW BEEN POSTPONED
UNTIL
SEPTEMBER***

NEW DATE WILL BE ADVISED

Contact: Trevor Oakley



PHOTOGRAPHY

You may have noticed bright yellow signs placed in areas of the church and Cross St café. These are a reminder to us all that any photos taken on our premises are for personal use only and **must not** to be shared on social media or in any form of publicity, **unless** permission has been granted by those being photographed, or in the case of children, by their parents or carers.

There are consent forms available if needed.

For further information please contact:

LINDA ROBERTS on 01727 858869 or FRANK IDDIOLS on 07939 287785 (both responsible for Safeguarding) or CHRIS PENN on 07770 334339 (Church Secretary)

Thank you.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE CHURCH

As we all know our household bills are rising and the cost of heating and lighting the church is no different to the energy costs at home. Our church relies on raising its own income. Some of this comes from hiring out our rooms, but the majority comes from congregational giving. There are various ways in which this can be done. There is a plate by the door of the church for cash and offering envelopes.

We now also have a contactless offering device which accepts card or phone payments of specific amounts and this is also by the main church doors on Sundays. These donations are completely anonymous.



We are happy to receive bank transfers and standing orders and the details are below:

Deacons of Dagnall Street Baptist Church
60-18-11
42087783

If you decide to make an offering in this way, it is helpful if you are able to email our Finance Manager, Liz Blight, lizblight@gmail.com, so that she can connect up the entry on our bank statement.

Thank you for your generosity!

The Deacons



‘Share St Albans’ is a ‘library of things’ where we lend DIY, garden, kitchen, party items or something for your home. Set up for St Albans and district to borrow not buy. Whether you want to loan a gazebo or DIY equipment we are here to share and reduce our collective environmental footprint and have a collaborative community.

By borrowing something for a small fee you can save yourself money, save on space needed for storage and help to save the planet.

Locations:

The Green House, 46 London Road, AL1 1NG
Sandridge Parish Council Car Park, The Ridgeway AL4 9TU

Please log onto the site to see opening times at these locations



Hoppers



Hoppers is the latest cooperation between Disney and Pixar and it tells the story of Mabel Tanaka, a college student, and her fight against Mayor Jerry, who wants to build a motorway through a delightful glade. The glade had been home to a variety of animals at least since Mabel was a child when she spent time there with her grandmother who came there to find peace. Of course, Mayor Jerry doesn't care about the animals – or peace –

he just wants to be able to build his motorway which will enable motorists to get from A to B 4 minutes faster and get him re-elected. Mayor Jerry had circumvented the planning laws by getting rid of the animals, but Mabel worked out that if she could get the animals back she could stop Mayor Jerry and his evil plan. To do this she would need to persuade the beavers to come back as they are the key species that would bring back all the others.

Sam Fairfax, Professor of Biology at Beaverton University, wanted to be able to engage with animals, like those in Mabel's glade. Having found that dressing up in a beaver costume didn't work – who knew! – Professor Fairfax developed a device – called a hopper – which transferred human consciousness into a lifelike robotic beaver. Mabel saw this as a way to get the beavers back. Having 'become' a beaver, Mabel led the revolt against Mayor Jerry.

Hoppers is a very funny film – who wouldn't want to see a Great White Shark lifted out of the sea by a flock of seagulls in order to chase a car! And there can't be many films in which the cast list includes Meryl Streep, Alan Carr and Amanda Holden.

It also has a strong environmental message which is that humans and animals share the same space and need to find a way to get on with each other. We can also see something of the Christian story in this film. *Hoppers* shows that the only way to save the animals was to become one of them. This is very much the Christian message of incarnation – that God had to become one of us in order to save us. We find this expressed most clearly in the Gospel according to John: "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us." God knew our life so that we could be saved and know God's.

***THE NEXT DATE FOR COPY WILL BE FOR
THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE OF THE MAGA-
ZINE AND WILL BE DUE ON THURSDAY,
20th AUGUST***

I'm very lucky as I work in an air-conditioned area at the hospice, so this very hot week has not been too much of a trial for me. But, my word, it has been hot when I have walked to my car after my shifts!

Vegetable growing hasn't been a great success this year as I seem to have provided the slugs and snails with a feast! I have no courgettes, beans or lettuces left. They have devoured the petunias, sweet peas and marigolds. They don't seem to like the beetroot, tomatoes, spinach, sweetcorn or cavolo nero. And plant wise they have left the geraniums and bizzzy lizzies alone!

I did not have a garden parasol to sit under and after the last heat wave, I thought I had better get one or I would never sit in my garden. The new umbrella and base arrived the day it started raining, torrentially. I thought I had jinxed the summer, especially as I also brought a sun hat! But it has been a god-send this week.

Hope everyone is surviving the Heat. Staying out of it, drinking lots of water and using sun-cream and, of course, wearing sunhats!



Glynis
glynis.griffiths1@gmail.com
01462 733665
07517 877601

What, When and Where July/August 2026

The church is open for services at 10.30am each Sunday. There are activities, games and crafts for children during every service on a Sunday.

After service coffee is served in the Cross Street Centre.

All Age Family Service 12th July, 10.30am. No All Age Family service in August.

Church in the Café, 26th July at 4pm. Content has not yet been confirmed. There is no Church in the Café during August.

Tea Chat and Prayer will not be going ahead for the present time.

Scrabble Club is held on the first and third Tuesday of each month, 7th and 21st July, 2.30-4.30pm, 4th and 18th August, 2.30-4.30pm.

Toddlers is held every Wednesday during school term time from 9.45—11.15am. The last session for the Summer term is 24th June. The Autumn Term starts on Wednesday, 9th September.

Who Let the Dad's Out . Meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month. The next meeting will be on Saturday, 11th July, 10-11.15am. There will no meeting during August.

Monday table tennis/games club has been suspended until further notice.

The fourth Tuesday of each month the Prayer and Share Group meet in the Cross Street Centre at 7.30pm.

First Saturday of the month Prayer Hour at 10am in Cross Street.

The Cross Street Café opens weekly from Wednesday to Saturday, 10am to 2pm. It will be closed for the Summer break from Sunday 16th August re-opening on Wednesday, 2nd September.

Carnegie Museum of Art

Newsletter by email, weekly.

You can view this magazine in colour on our website.
<https://www.dsbc.org.uk/>