

NewsLink

22 January—4 February 2023



Churches of North
Bradford on Avon
& Villages

Dear friends

Some not far away are still suffering from flooding, the main roads around us are closed due to accidents or roadworks, the pavements are icy and slippery and it's freezing cold!

I think we need some encouragement!

In early December I received an email which included the following:

'I came across your services on YouTube during the pandemic and whilst not having been to church for many years, I settled into the weekly routine of watching them over breakfast.

And then they stopped. And I missed them. So, I went to my local church one Sunday morning and have occasionally returned.

She went on to say -

'My new year's resolution in 2021 was to go to church every Sunday. It may surprise you (it surprises me) to know that I have managed to keep that resolution. That hour of peace and reflection on a Sunday morning has given me so much. Now almost a year later I am gradually becoming more involved in the life of a church I barely stepped inside before. I joined a singing workshop and I help with welcoming others, fundraising, and even ringing the bell before the service.'

I wanted to thank you for those online services which were so encouraging.'

We all need encouragement, don't we? We all go about our daily lives, in the main not knowing if the Christian message we try to share ever has an impact. And then every now and again we glimpse how God is working in individual lives or in our communities.

There are several encouragers in the Bible. They gave powerful assistance during challenging circumstances. Moses had Aaron and Hur's support during Israel's battles ([Exodus 17:8-16](#)). Elizabeth encouraged her pregnant relative Mary ([Luke 1:42-45](#)).

Perhaps the most well-known encourager in the Bible is Barnabas whose name literally means "son of encouragement." When the disciples were fearful of Paul, Barnabas, at the risk of his own reputation, vouched for him ([Acts 9:27](#)), and his endorsement was essential to Paul being welcomed by the Christian community.

Like Barnabas we are called to "encourage one another and build each other up" ([1 Thessalonians 5:11](#)). May we be eager to offer encouragement to help support others, especially as they face difficult circumstances.

The Lord himself
goes before you
and will be with you;
*he will never leave you
nor forsake you.*
Do not be afraid;
do not be discouraged.

-Deuteronomy 31:8

BibleVerseImages.com



Many blessings, Ann, Rector

Upcoming Services

22nd January 2023

10.00am Holy Communion Service, St James Church, South Wraxall. Led by Revd. Tim Hawkings, organist Gerry H.

10.00am Holy Communion Service, St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh. Led by Revd. Bernard Hughes, organist Harold J.

10.30am Refresh Service, Christ Church, Bradford-on-Avon. Led by Zoe and Alison, music delivered by Tricia and the music group.

10.30am Holy Communion service - United Service with Winsley Methodist Church, at the Methodist Church, Winsley. Led by Revd. Ann Keating and Methodist Minister Tracey Lewis.

29th January 2023

10.00am Benefice Service with Holy Communion at St James Church, South Wraxall. Led by Revd. Tessa Mann, preacher Rachel Pound, organist Keith B.

1st February 2023

10.30am Holy Communion Service at Christ Church, Bradford on Avon. Led by Revd. Tim Hawkings.

Funeral Of the late

Timothy Wilshere

Midday 14th February 2023

Christ Church, Bradford on
Avon

Service led by Revd. Tessa
Mann

Funeral Of the late

Doreen Lumsden

10am 8th February 2023

St Nicholas Church, Winsley

Service led

Revd. Ann Keating

Funeral Of the late

John Davies

**3.15pm 31st January
2023**

Haycombe Crematorium

Service led by Revd.
Tessa Mann

NewsLink

The next edition of NewsLink will be on **Sunday 5th February 2023**. Please email any relevant contributions to the Benefice Office at nboabenefice@gmail.com by **9.30am Tuesday 31st January 2023**.

You can read the full version on our website at www.nboachurches.co.uk

Ministry Team:

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Children's and Families Worker:

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**Have you been coming to one of our churches
since the pandemic started?**

If so:

Save the date: 29 January 2023

Do join us for afternoon tea and conversation on Sunday afternoon **29th January, 3.00 pm at St Nicholas Church Hall.**

We look forward to seeing you and finding out what you are enjoying about coming to our churches and what you might be missing from your previous church communities that we could offer.



**Benefice Service Education Sunday – Com-
missioning Headteachers**

**10:30am Sunday 5th February at Christ
Church, Bradford-on-Avon**

Please do join us for this very special Candlemas Service including the commissioning of Headteachers from Winsley Primary School, Christ church Primary School.



**Baker, cake maker? We need your
help.**

**If you are able to bake for our tea and con-
versation afternoon on Sunday 29th Janu-
ary please could you contact Linds Batson
on 01225 720069**

Living with Dying:

**Tuesday 7th February in St Nicholas
Church 10am to 12 noon**

Paul and Tessa will be leading another free ranging discussion addressing a subject that affects us all yet is all too often avoided. Previous sessions have been greatly appreciated. A hot drink and tasty biscuits provided - all welcome.

Rev Paul Batson and Rev Tessa Mann

Dates for your Diary

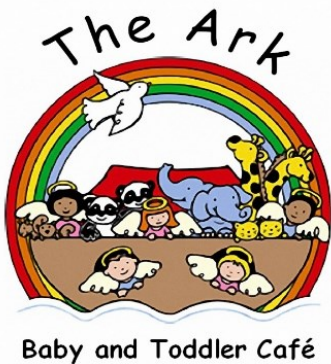
Kettle's On dates for January—June 2023

18th January
1st and 15th February
1st and 15th March
5th and 19th April
3rd and 17th May
7th and 21st June

Soup's Up dates for January—April

20th January
3rd February and 17th February
3rd March and 17th March
21st April

Children & Families News



Come and join us at
**The Ark Coffee
Morning**
At Christ Church



Supporting
Future for Christ Church Community Project

Thursday 26th January
10-11:30am during the
Ark.

Everyone welcome!



Toys available as usual for children to play with. There may also be a tombola, toy tombola or other small games. Donations of cakes or tombola items welcomed or just



Children from Winsley Primary school met Bishop Stephen in December to discuss learning in a Church school and their perspective on faith and living in the modern world. Revd Tessa said the children were alongside pupils from two other local schools. They engaged in creative activities to reflect on life and faith. It was a thoughtful and creative event part of Bishop Stephen's aim of listening to young people and their thoughts on faith to support the development of the church in the diocese.



Modern Church

faith in the world

South West Group Day Conference

How to read the Bible

without switching off your brain

Rev Dr Simon Taylor

Manvers St Baptist Church, Bath

(in the Pulteney Room)

Saturday 25th February 2023,

11.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.(Coffee from 10.30 a.m)

Following a time as Priest In Charge of St Mary Redcliffe in Bristol, Simon moved to Derby as Canon Chancellor. He returned to Bristol in 2019 as Director of Ministry Development. Amongst his publications is a book with the same title as this address.

Manvers St Baptist Church is a short distance from the railway and coach/bus stations Please bring a packed lunch or there are many local outlets which provide food. To book: please email – dj455475@hotmail.com and your booking will be acknowledged. Please include a phone/mobile number for contact purposes. We are able to provide this conference at a cost of £5 per person, payable on the day.

Modern Church encourages open, respectful debate on Christian faith: modern-church.org.uk

Fundraising to update and restore Christ Church, Bradford-on-Avon as a community hub fit for the 21st century!

Your donation will help add essential toilets and a kitchen, create flexible open spaces, restore our spire clock and magnificent nave and rare wall paintings, and install new energy efficient and flexible lighting.

If you would like to give a donation in memory or celebration of someone, a special occasion, or something memorable to you, please email: discovercc@gmail.com

To donate, scan the QR Code or use this link: <https://tinyurl.com/mrt6dn3x>

Thank you so much for your contribution to the Future for Christ Church community project.

