



A newsletter brought to you during Covid-19

Church Together Apart



@stmikesmacclesfield



www.stmichaels-macclesfield.org.uk



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Time for Rest?



*“O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
Where Jesus knelt to share with Thee
The silence of eternity
Interpreted by love!”*

The lines above are taken from the well-known hymn, “Dear Lord and Father of mankind” written by John Greenleaf Whittier. The hymn itself is taken from a longer poem by Whittier in which he calls worshippers away from frantic activity and commends purity and simplicity in approaching God.[1] In this verse, he turns to the joy of keeping the Sabbath as an aspect of such pure and simple worship.

I wonder what that word, “Sabbath” means to you? One day in seven set aside for rest and recuperation and dedicated as holy? The Sabbath is inaugurated in the creation narrative of Genesis- “God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation” Genesis 2:3. The Sabbath is affirmed in the narrative of the new creation. On the Cross as he dies Jesus states, “it is finished”, (John 19:30) and the following day, the Sabbath, his body rests in the tomb. On the first day of the new week there is New Creation- Resurrection.

The rhythm of activity and rest inaugurated in creation and affirmed in the new creation is offered as a gift to humankind, but we live in a world, in a culture, in a society which never stops, there is always another task to accomplish, e-mail to answer, call to make...where is that rhythm of activity and rest in our lives today?



In Mark 2:27 Jesus says that “The Sabbath was made for humankind and not humankind for the Sabbath”. The gift of a rhythm of activity and rest is not another thing to feel guilty about if we don’t quite achieve it, it is something to be considered, accepted and enjoyed as a gift to enrich our lives.

As I write it is the busiest weekend of the year for travel and many people head for holidays, it is that time of year when we might well be thinking about stopping our regular activity and resting for a while, leaving the tasks the emails and the calls to one side - and if that is possible then that is just great. But thinking about Sabbath in the context of the holiday



season reminds me that whilst holidays are wonderful, making time for Sabbath rest as part of an ongoing sustainable and sustaining rhythm of life is perhaps a greater gift. Thinking about Sabbath reminds me that its OK to stop, for a day in each week, for some time in each day, for a moment in each hour, the tasks will wait as we share with Jesus even just for a moment the silence of eternity, simply offering our thanks for his presence with us as our offering of worship. The gift of Sabbath is a gift of love.



Revd Christine Broad, Rector of Woodchurch and Dean of Women in Ministry in the Diocese of Chester.

The Collect for the 10th Sunday after Trinity

Lord God, your Son left the riches of heaven and became poor for our sake: when we prosper save us from pride, when we are needy save us from despair, that we may trust in you alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

8th August 2021

Tenth Sunday after Trinity

Sunday Morning Worship

Leader: Rachel Mayers

Speaker: Barry Langman

Bible Reading: John 6:35 + 41-51

Sprucing Up The Kitchen...

There has been a lot of activity in the church kitchen recently. A great team have cleared out cupboards, cleaned all cupboards and contents, and sorted pots. New equipment has arrived, and notices prepared; freezers and fridge have been filled, procedures revised. The café re-opened on Monday and we were delighted to welcome some of our "old" clients back and a few new ones. We are very grateful to everyone who has helped with all this preparation, and to those who have contributed items or finance for the kitchen. THANK YOU! And here's a question... this person was spotted clearing cupboards. Who is it? Answers (on a postcard?) to the office. The correct answer will NOT be divulged in the newsletter!



(The person has given permission for this photo to be used)

A note from Enid...

Thank you all once again for the beautiful rose bush given to me on my retirement from cleaning the church. It is now in full bloom and sitting very pretty!

Many thanks,

Enid



Caption This...



David Mayers has sent in this cheery photo taken at the planting of the raised bed. Although, it does look like there could be an array of stories to match. Can you come up with any comical anecdotes to go with the picture? Email clergypa@maccteam.org.uk with responses and the results will be posted in next week's newsletter!

Doves

You may remember an article in June about the doves and wondered what has happened. Here is a reminder and a list of dates we require your help. Over this last year or more many people have experienced bereavements and have not been able to share with others in their grief e.g. at a funeral service. The deaths may or may not have been caused by Covid-19 but all have been affected by it.



Now restrictions are easing and people are beginning to venture out, we would like to invite anyone in our community who has been affected to make a dove. The doves will then be displayed in church. At All Soul's, Tuesday 2nd November, we will all come together in an Act of Remembrance where those named will be remembered and ashes from the doves scattered in the churchyard.

St Michael's Church is at the heart of the community of Macclesfield. We need to be a living presence to give comfort after what has been an incredibly tough time. You can help by being there to offer the paper and instructions for making the dove (these will be provided), taking details for contact and a listening ear as required.

Please let us know if you can give of your time (for any length of time) on:

-Saturday 28th August 10am – 3pm

-August Treacle Market Sunday

29th Aug 10am – 3pm

-Saturday 25th September 10am –

3pm

-September Treacle Market Sunday

26th September 10am – 3pm

-Saturday 30th October 10am – 3pm

-October Treacle Market Sunday

31st October 10am – 3pm

If anybody wishes to have training in folding the doves, or to speak to us in person about what is involved, one of us will be in church each Sunday after the service. If you are not in church, please feel free to reach out to us by email.

Please prayerfully consider if you can offer some time to this Christian witness. If you can, please contact Sallie or Sarah. Thank you.

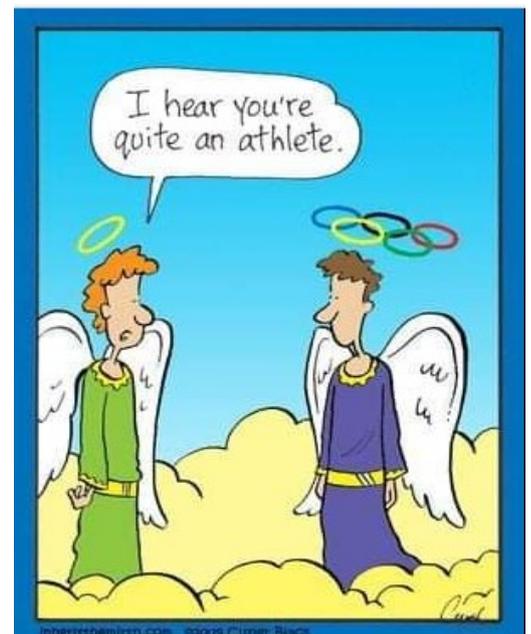
salliemartin88@gmail.com

sarahwil88@hotmail.com



Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

- Matthew 11:29



Satsuki-Mei and the Silkmen



On Saturday Satsuki-Mei was asked with her friends to represent The Savage Foundation at the opening match of Macclesfield FC and played on the pitch at half time. She has been taking part in classes since The Savage Foundation opened earlier this year and loves it! Mum, Dad, Grandad and Satsuki-Mei all enjoyed cheering on the Silkmen to their 1-0 victory!

Children's Toys and Books Needed

Can you help?



For our new Church Family Worship service (which begins in mid-September), we intend to give to each young child a toy-bag with age-appropriate toys and books inside, as they arrive in church. We hope these will help to keep them occupied in the unlikely event of the service itself not holding their

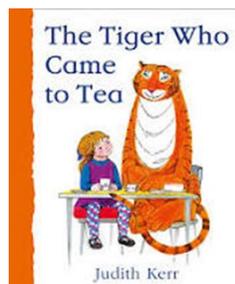
attention. Three of the four Services each month will see children leaving to go to their Special Place (Roots or Storytelling) after 20 minutes, and for one service a month we will all stay together. We really want to make young families feel as relaxed and welcome as possible and hope that this might help.

We therefore need toys and books suitable for children aged 0-7-ish. We would prefer it if drums, castanets, trumpets and cymbals were NOT donated! Choke hazards are best avoided too.

There will be a collection box in the Welcome Area for the next few weeks for any donations. You might like to clear out any children's toys / books you have left from your own children/ grandchildren or see if there are any nice items in charity shops, etc. which you could purchase and donate.

A few people are making some jaunty drawstring bags to hold these toys. The bags will be 18" x 16" (46cm x 41cm for the younger of you), so please don't donate large items which won't fit in such a bag!

Many thanks



Lynne Spedding

Open Day

Our refill shop is open for all your household items. Meet the team and find out more about what we do.



Come and help us make and fill some raised beds (9-4).



Bring plants, seeds and cuttings to swap, adopt and recycle.



Litter Picking walk (11-12)

Pickers and bags provided (bring your own gloves).



Re-brand your bag!

Bring along your cotton bag and we will transform it for you for free.



Hot drinks available from Tatama Coffee.



Buy T-shirts made from seaweed fibre.



WHEN
Sat 7th August
10am - 4pm

WHERE
The Old Sunday School,
Roe Street, Macclesfield, SK11 6UT

FIND OUT MORE
www.scoopandscales.co.uk

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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New raised bed at St. Michael's



As part of our Vision for the future of St. Michael's we have identified 3 key strategic objectives; we hope that 2 of these – increasing opportunities for Encounter and increasing Sustainability and Caring for God's creation – will benefit from the building of a new raised bed on the south side of the churchyard near the Youth Centre.

Designed and built by volunteers from local charity Food4macc, the bed will allow residents from the local community and Parasol housing, as well as members of our congregation, who can't grow their own vegetables to have a go, and at the same time increase the

biodiversity of the area. Many thanks to all our church members who helped to move 3 tonnes of top-soil from the front of the church – a triumph of team-work and skillful barrowing. At the moment we have to wait a week or so for the soil to settle, but we will then be looking for volunteers to plant, water and supervise – please speak to David Mayers for more information.



And thanks to all those who have generously donated to the cost of materials; I am delighted to be able to report that we have covered our costs with a little left over to use for the purchase of seeds, plants, manure and other essentials.



David Mayers

Join us for
Sunday Worship



St Michael's Worship 8th August 2021

Tenth Sunday after Trinity
Merged service this week at 10.00am:
live in church / from home on Zoom

To join by Zoom click on the image or use
Meeting ID: 939 7279 7379
Password: 01625

Service Leader: Rachel Mayers
Talk: Barry Langman
Reading: John 6:35 + 41-51



Can't join us live? Watch the recording of our morning worship service on Zoom at a time to suit you after Sunday lunchtime [here](#)

Wednesday Morning Discussion
11.00am to 12 noon

Join Zoom meeting [here](#)
Meeting ID: 971 3599 5784
Passcode: 01625




Monday HomeGroup

When? 7.30pm - 9pm Monday evenings

Join Zoom Meeting [here](#)
Meeting ID: 910 4838 5228
Password: Monday

For more information contact Martin [by email](#) or 01625 426110.

No Computer? No problem!
You can still join any of these Zoom meetings and services with your landline phone

If phoning:
Dial 0330 088 5830.

When prompted, enter the Meeting ID from any of these boxes followed by #
[For Sunday's service: 939 7279 7379]

When prompted, enter #



Thursday Homegroup 

All are welcome to join for Bible Study, prayer and fellowship.

During August the Thursday evening homegroup will not be meeting on Zoom. Please contact David Mayers by [email](#) or phone 01625 420716 or 07963 802659 for details of future meetings.

We are studying *The Prayer Course* at the moment.

 Email any [prayer requests](#) here

Compline/Night Prayer

Every Friday

Topic: Night Prayer
Time: 8.30pm every Friday (join from 8.25pm)
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75676947476?pwd=R2twT2pQbTFzUGR5bk1reDZoVXdaZz09>
Meeting ID: 756 7694 7476
Passcode: compline



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Giving to the work and worship of St Michael's
Click here to donate towards our church's ministry 

