

September to November 2019
WARMINSTER UNITED
CHURCH
(Methodist/URC)
George Street, Warminster BA12 8QA



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*Caring shepherd, caring shepherd,
Helps his sheep, helps his sheep,
Knows about each one, knows about each one,
Loves them all, loves them all.*

Jacquie Sibley. Tune Frere Jacques

Dear Friends

The Good Shepherd was the theme of our summer Children's Church Activity morning: a wonderful occasion and thanks are



rightly to be expressed to all those who made the event possible. Seeing so many young children and their parents/carers/relatives on the premises was marvellous.

There were various craft events all connected with sheep, talking to the children it

seemed the cake and biscuit decorating was the most popular. We had stories and songs based around some of Jesus' parables. Even the food included a reference with green jelly topped with mini-marshmallows to represent grazing sheep.

Within the Bible there are various references to sheep , from those famous and comforting words from Psalm 23, "The Lord's my shepherd" to the proclamation of Jesus in John's Gospel, "I am the Good Shepherd" words beautifully depicted in our restored stained glass window. So many images refer to the care of God towards humankind. Sheep can be nervous animals, sometimes situations in our lives can make us not only feel apprehensive but scared and afraid. The image of the caring shepherd is one that gives hope and peace and the reassurance that God knows each one of us by name. Wherever you are, wherever the future takes you may you know the love, protection and care of the Good Shepherd.

Rev David.

22nd September 10.30 a.m.



ALL AGE WORSHIP

Led by Rev David Coppard

Followed by Bring and Share Lunch

29th September

SECTOR SERVICE

ALL AGE WORSHIP

Led by Rev David Coppard

At STEEPLE ASHTON METHODIST CHURCH



(Steeple Ashton is sign posted from the A350 Trowbridge-Melksham road. The church is on the left as you enter the village)

There will be no morning service at our church that day

Rota for Church Oct. Nov. and Dec. 2019

Oct	Vestry (V)/ Opening(O)	Books/Welcome	Coffee	Flowers
6	Sue Hewitt O/V	Andy Simmons Arthur Pimm	Yvonne Syrett Brenda Goodwin	Marion Hornby
13	Joan S. O Andy V	Dennis and Sylvia	Joan Stephens and Hilary Reynolds	Jenny Sanderson
20	Karen O/V	Sandra Matthews Anita Silk	Diana and Wendy	Hilda Hanks
27	Marion Barton O/V	Pam and Derrick Copeland	Dana and Hilda	Helen Richards
Nov 3	Andy Simmons O/V	Sue Hewitt and Chris Walton	Pam Copeland Anita Silk	Pauline Howell
10	Brenda O Helen V	Pauline Howell Erica Castle	Brenda Goodwin Kevin Dawson	Helen Dawson
17	Hilda O/V	Penelope Anita Silk	Yvonne Syrett and Joan Stephens	Margaret McDonald
24	Marion Barton O/V	Muriel May, Helen & Sebastian	Diana and Wendy	Jenny Sanderson
December 1	Sue Hewitt O/V	Dennis and Pat Mills	Brenda Goodwin Joan Stephens	Susan Hewitt
8	Joan Jones O Marion V	Paula Johnson Stuart	Joan and Evan	Joan Jones
15	NO Morning service	Service 3.30pm	Carol Service	Pat Mills
22	Diana O Karen V	Muriel May Penelope	Erica Castle Hilary Reynolds	Sandra Mathews
25 Christmas	Karen O/V	All Hands on Deck	All Hands on Deck	Christmas Flowers
29 Sector Service	Andy Simmons O/V	All Hands on Deck	All Hands on Deck	Christmas Flowers

TREASURER'S REPORT

Our offering for the last 3 months amounted to :

May : £2152.45

June: £1940.65

July: £1852.70

As the end of our financial year is coming up I am doing a review of our finances. Financially we are doing well which is enabling us to keep our building well maintained, although there is still work to be done.

Our expenses this year so far are £34,688 which is nearly £3,000 per month. Our income totals £33,575 so far. We have the month of August to add on and hopefully we will receive our Gift Aid Rebate which will take our Income above our Expenses.

I will soon be ordering the offertory envelopes for next year. If anyone, who doesn't already do so, would like to give their offering by Standing Order I can give you details. If you are a tax payer you can Gift Aid you donation if you use envelopes or standing order.

I offer very grateful thanks to people who have reviewed their giving. This can mean your giving being increased, reduced or staying the same. We can also give our time , not necessarily money, to aid the work of the church, showing God's love to Warminster town

If anyone has any questions , please speak to me.

Thanks for all your generous support.

Hilary

PASTORAL CARERS

If, like me, you welcomed the summer sunshine then wilted in the heat, you will have been pleased to have some slightly cooler weather this August. For the gardeners amongst us the welcome rain after the dry days but through it all marvel at the beauty surrounding us.

Flowers have abounded and it was with wonder that I saw the fields of poppies along the stretch of road before joining the Heytesbury roundabout, seeds blown by the wind to blossom in abundance. The red poppies which remind us of the death and destruction of war but also the richness of our natural world. I would like to thank all those who have contributed to the church garden; I recommend a visit when the opportunity arises.

Whilst remembering we think of our friends unable to join us for a service but who continue to pray for us from their homes; Tony, Ron, Joy, Joan D and Joan A. We also think of those who are unable to attend due to ill health at present and wish them a speedy recovery. Our thoughts are especially with Abigail as she comes home.

David will be providing me with a date for a pastoral meeting to be held in the next few weeks, which I will share with carers, hoping that they will be able to attend. If you have any special thoughts you wish to share with us, please take me aside after a service to let me know

Marion Barton



We will again be filling shoeboxes with gifts for vulnerable children in South East Europe. Contributions can be brought along on Sunday mornings and left in a box in the

foyer. Some people have been collecting all year and Brenda has been busy covering boxes. Details of what's needed will be on weekly notice sheets and posters. Boxes will be collected 18th Nov-packing during the week before. Coffee morning to raise funds to transport them Nov. 9th

Joan Jones

Howard Spurr : It is with great sadness that I learnt of the death of Howard Spurr on Sunday, 18th August. He was always such a strong member of our church family, with a life-long Christian belief that helped him and his comrades through the rigours of the Second World War into peace time. He taught at Sunday School with Audrey, his wife, when they lived in Lincolnshire and when they moved to Warminster they were ready to help each one of us.

He looked after the property here at George Street for many years using his DIY and engineering expertise.

I remember him especially as a faithful member of the Cooper Bible Study, always having read the chapter in the book we were studying in great depth, using other books to explain, making copious notes and he came with much knowledge to share. Together with two other strong members of the church, Wesley and Bernard, those of us in attendance could always rely on learning a great deal from their debate.

He remained a committed member of our church although unable to attend after moving to Westbury, supported us in his prayers, as well as financially, and when I last visited was remembering the names of all his old friends here. It was an honour to know him.

Marion Barton

There will be a

Service of Thanksgiving on Friday 13th September at 3pm.

We hold Margaret and all the family in our thoughts and prayers at this time.

Charity Coffee Mornings 10 a.m. to 12 noon

2019	CHARITY	ORGANISER	
January 12th	Action for Children	Barry Treadwell	£200
February 9th	Sachibondu Mission Zambia	Marion Barton	£185
March 9th	Warminster Stroke Club	Elaine Hunter	£200
April 13th	Zimbabwe Victims Support Fund	Pam and Derrik	£250
May 11th	Warminster Food Bank	Jean Colgrave	£155
June 8th	Christian Aid	Karen Woollard	£156
July 13th	Shelter Box	Joan Jones	£150
August 10th	Dementia UK	John Alpin	£103
September 14th	Guide Dogs for the Blind	Anita Silk	
October 12th	School in a bag	Helen Richards	
November 9th	Christmas Shoebox Appeal	Joan Jones	
Dec 14th	Air Ambulance	Anita Silk	

During Christian Aid week a total in excess of £5,000 was raised in Warminster which was an impressive amount and shows a lot of dedicated work from the churches.

FAMILY ACTIVITY DAY

As David says on the first page, the Family Activity Day on 22nd August was great fun , whilst passing on the good news that God cares about all of us – like the Good shepherd cares for every one of his sheep.

22 children took part (although the youngest one at 3 weeks old probably didn't know much about it!) . Most of the children have been to previous events and are becoming quite at home in our church. There were also a few new families who live locally and all were most welcome. They were all accompanied by parents, grandparents and other relatives who also seemed to have a good time. Many thanks to all who helped make the morning a success; leading songs, telling stories, decorating the church, helping with craft activities, preparing food, washing up, taking photos and just being there .

Hopefully the next Activity event will be in the October school half term holiday, with the continuation of the theme of Pumpkins Heroes which was enjoyed in 2017.

Joan Jones



