

NEWSWIRE: 15th August 2025



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 - Travel Guides to Corinth and Ephesus
 - The Christians v The Lions Aunt Sally
 - Ride and Stride for Churches
-

A message from John

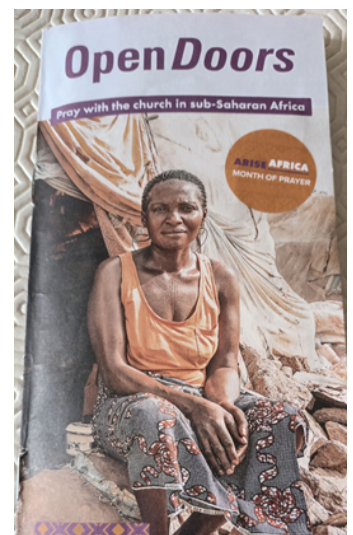
"You will be hated by everyone because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved." *Matthew 10 v22*

Two weeks ago I was at the 'Keswick Convention' in the Lake District: a week of fantastic Bible teaching, seminars, workshops, singing praises to God, an excellent bookshop, and 1,800 children and young people learning about the Christian faith... and much more! This was my first time at the Keswick Convention and I found it a really helpful and encouraging time.

In the UK we are very fortunate to have this and similar events available to us, and the freedom to meet together at such events, as well as the freedom to worship God week by week in our local churches.

Then a few days after I arrived back from Keswick, I received in the post a one-month prayer diary from Open Doors, called "Arise Africa". You may remember watching a video in church last year about the desperate plight of our brothers and sisters in Christ in sub-Saharan Africa and the persecution which they are facing... it is estimated that over 16 million of our Christian brothers and sisters are suffering for their faith in this region of Africa alone!

This prayer diary is a follow up to that video.



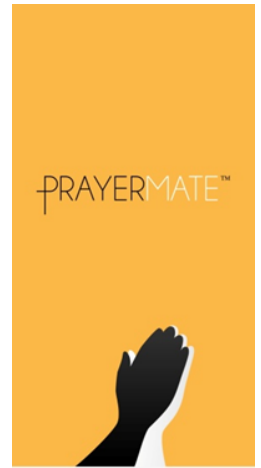
This message is nothing to do with "guilt-tripping" any of us! Rather I just want to encourage all of us to keep praying for our brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus in parts of the world where the freedom to meet and worship God, and to hear his word is absent.

There are a number of different aids and prompts available to help and guide us in our prayers.



Have you tried downloading the [“PrayerMate” app](#) onto your smartphone? There are loads of resources contained in this app.

Or contact [Open Doors](#) and ask for a copy of their [“World Watch List 2025”](#) – the 10 darkest places on earth to be a Christian.



We have so much to be thankful to God for. Let us lift up our persecuted brothers and sisters to God in our prayers.

John Anderson

Collect for the ninth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty God,
who sent your Holy Spirit
to be the life and light of your Church:
open our hearts to the riches of your grace,
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit
in love and joy and peace;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

SERVICES ON SUNDAY

9.30am - Holy Communion at St Peter's

Readings: Acts 19:17-20, 23; Ephesians 6:10-20



10.30am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's and live streamed on [this link](#)

Reading: Acts 19: 23-41; Ephesians 6:10-13

If you have difficulties accessing the service on the livestream link above, please try accessing [our youtube channel](#) directly.

NEXT WEEK

Monday 18th August

Bump to One meet on Mondays from 10.30am to midday in St Leonard's

NEXT SUNDAY - 24th August

9am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's

9.30am - Morning Worship at St Leonard's

5pm - Evening Prayer at St Leonard's

The Christians vs The Lions

The annual spectacular combat of **The Christians** (church) **vs The Lions** (Red Lion Cassington) at Aunt Sally will take place on **Bank Holiday Monday, 25th August at 2.30** in the ~~Colosseum in Rome~~ *garden of the Red Lion* in Cassington.

This is a ~~deadly serious~~ *family, fun* event. **All are welcome to play or cheer.**

Those with a strong arm and deadly aim are needed to defend our honour. (*But failing that we will take anyone.*)

Please put the date in your diary now and let me know your interest / availability (Roger Aston 01865 88075 rogera52@aol.com) spouses and families welcome. Tegas raincoats optional.

Win ~~your freedom~~ maybe a beer if you are victorious!

Roger

TRAVEL GUIDES

Travel guides to support the summer sermon series can be found on the links below:

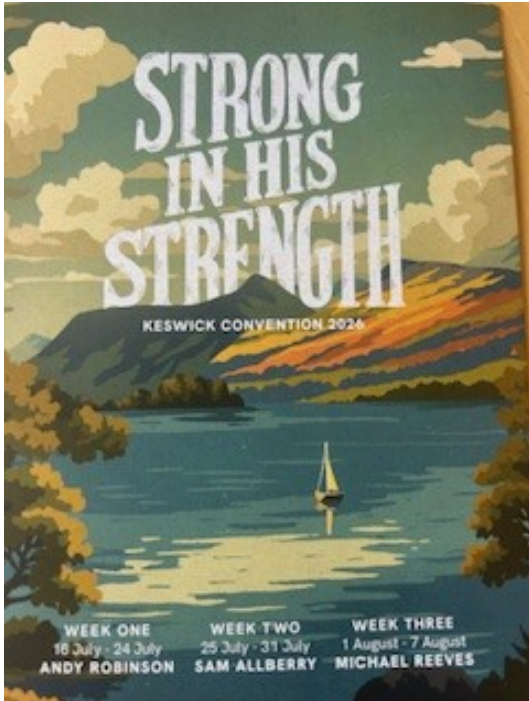
[Corinth Travel Guide](#)

[Ephesus Travel Guide](#)



The annual Ride and Stride for Churches is taking place on **Saturday 13th September**. You can find out more about walking or cycling to raise money for Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust on [this link](#).

Keswick Convention 2026



Have you ever thought about having a week's holiday in the Lake district with some excellent teaching worship and spiritual refreshment ?

Just plan and book your accommodation, camping, holiday cottage or Airbnb in the Keswick area (book early!)

We generally attend the convention in the mornings and some evenings or you can dip in as much or as little as you want.

There is a group of us planning to attend week 2 in 2026 if you are interested in joining us. Please click on the link for further information, or pick up an information card in St Leonard's church.

[Keswick Convention 2026](#)

Want to make an impact with a local Christian Charity? Here's a new opportunity to make a practical difference at **AdventurePlus** over in Clanfield, by taking part in our volunteer week!

Ahead of the winter, we need to complete some essential site maintenance. This will include weather proofing the yurts, and painting the exterior of the conference building.

We'd be delighted if you were able to join our team of volunteers between the **15th - 19th September 2025**. It would be fantastic if you can join us for the full week, but if that's too much, why not join us for a couple days?

And whether you're local to A+ or live further afield, why not stay over in one of our A+ Yurts and experience the peace and quiet of the A+ Adventure Base; for

free! You can have access to and use of the self catering kitchen and shower block, or why not use one of the BBQs for some outdoor cooking.

If you are interested and would like to find out more, please email volunteering@adventureplus.org.uk

Thank you from everyone at AdventurePlus.

Steve & Marian

A vibrant poster for Adventure Plus Volunteer Week. The background is a collage of orange, red, and purple geometric shapes. At the top, a black banner reads 'ADVENTURE PLUS'. Below it, 'Volunteer' is written in large green letters, and 'Week' is in a white script font. The dates 'SEP 12TH - 19TH' are in bold black. Three speech bubbles contain key information: a white bubble about supporting local charities, a purple bubble about free accommodation, and a blue bubble with contact details. Icons include a lightning bolt, a heart with 'LOVE', and a smiley face. The bottom features a black and white photo of raised fists. The Adventure Plus logo and registration details are at the bottom left, and the website URL is on the right.

ADVENTURE PLUS

Volunteer Week

SEP 12TH - 19TH

Support your local charity with essential painting work on site!

Free overnight accommodation and self catering kitchen

Email Marian at Volunteering@adventureplus.uk to register interest or to get more info.

LOVE

WWW.ADVENTUREPLUS.UK

Registered Charity Number 1081059
Registered Company in England and Wales No. 397697

Adventure Plus
inspiring the next generation

Please pray for:

- Dave following his move to a care home.
- Ben and healing for his mental health.
- Scarlett's recovery from long Covid.
- Katie suffering with epilepsy. Please pray that the right medication be found to control her seizures.

To add names to the prayer list, please contact the Church Office (stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com) Names will be added to the list by express permission, and only first names will be published.

www.stleonardseynsham.org.uk | www.stpeterschurchcassington.org | [Youtube channel](#) | [facebook page](#)

Church Office - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9am – 2pm

Tel: 01865 883325 E-mail: stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com

Revd Duncan Fraser: 07810 324088 (Day off – Friday)