



NEWSWIRE: 22nd August 2025



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-

A message from Duncan

*"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good and his steadfast love endures forever!"
(Psalm 136)*

One of the disciplines we are called to as followers of Jesus is to kindle an ever present spirit of thankfulness in our lives. Upon my return from sabbatical, perhaps unsurprisingly, a spirit of thankfulness comes quite naturally: *"I will sing the LORD's praise, for he has been good to me."* (Ps 13.6). I will be delighted to share with you all, in the near future, some of what I have got up to over the last few months at an evening gathering, perhaps on a Sunday evening in September - I will keep you posted once I've caught up with what else is happening around here!

I owe a great debt, and am profoundly thankful, to all those who enabled me to take this sabbatical, and for the financial assistance in meeting some of the costs. Thank you to all of you who have given sacrificially of your time in leading services and preaching more than your usual share; for all the work behind the scenes in ensuring that the life of both parishes ran as smoothly as possible; that pastoral needs were met as they arose; and for all those who, in the words of someone who was reporting back to me, simply got on with what needed to be done without anyone knowing. Thank you so much.

I realise it is rare in this world to have the opportunity to take a breather from normal routine to rest, retreat and be refreshed: a chance to be reminded why we are doing what we are doing, and for the Christian, who we are doing it for. At

times in our relationship with God we can become jaded, disillusioned and discouraged, and it is water to the soul to be reminded that God is good, he holds us fast, and his purposes for us will be fulfilled as we surrender our lives to him. One song has impressed itself upon myself and Carmen over these past months ([listen here](#)) and expresses my heart and my hope for us all as we continue to serve Jesus day by day:

I've never been more glad
That I put my faith in Jesus
'Cause He's never let me down
He's faithful through generations
So why would He fail now?
He won't.

Austin Davis | Chandler Moore | Cody Carnes © 2021 For Humans Publishing; Maverick City Publishing; A.L.K.D. Music; Capitol CMG
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Collect for the tenth Sunday after Trinity

Let your merciful ears, O Lord,
be open to the prayers of your humble servants;
and that they may obtain their petitions
make them to ask such things as shall please you;
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

9am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's

Readings: Acts 20:7-12; 2 Timothy 4:6-13

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

Readings: Acts 20:7-12; 2 Timothy 4:6-13

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

5pm - Evening Prayer at St Peter's

Readings: Acts 20:1-16; Deuteronomy 30:11-20



NEXT SUNDAY - 31st August

9.30am - Holy Communion at St Peter's

10.3am - Morning Worship 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. ~~Togas~~ 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](#)

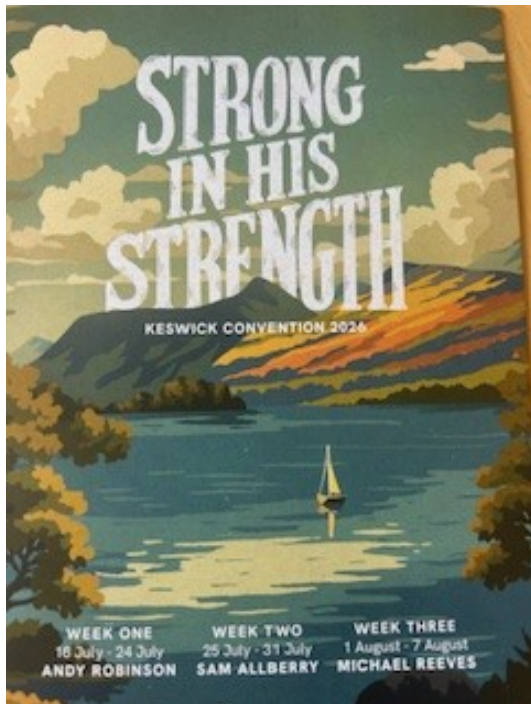
[Ephesus Travel Guide](#)

[Troas 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](#)

Do you have a room to let? A 59 year old single professional lady is looking for a room to rent in the West Oxfordshire area. If you have a room to let and would like to discuss details of requirements and costs etc, please contact Tracey on 07804 928962.

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, the word 'Volunteer' is in large green letters, and 'Week' is in a white script font. The dates 'SEP 12TH - 19TH' are in bold black letters. Three speech bubbles contain key information: a white bubble about supporting local charities, a purple bubble about free accommodation and catering, and a blue bubble about contacting Marian. Decorative elements include a red heart with 'LOVE', a lightning bolt icon, a smiley face icon, and a vertical URL on the right. The bottom features a black and white photo of raised fists and the Adventure Plus logo with registration details.

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)