



NEWSWIRE: 31st July 2026



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-

A message from Duncan

Be joyful in the Lord, all the earth!

Serve the Lord with gladness!

And come before his presence with singing!

Psalms 100.1-2

I have always loved the fact that we are called to serve the Lord with gladness. I mean I have not always managed it. I can have a tendency to be grumpy at times, and a bit introspective at others, but I love that I am called to the ideal of service marked by joy. It says a lot about the one we serve - he is one who delights in our delight.

Last week's Holiday Club was a week of service for the Lord filled with gladness. It was filled with many other things: non-stop activity, face pies, exhaustion, wonderful children, wonderful leaders, fun, bible, creativity, fellowship, singing, kindness, imagination, tiredness; but it was an opportunity and privilege to serve the Lord with gladness.

One morning I was walking down to church to calculate the man hours that enabled Holiday Club to happen, both in preparation and in the week itself, and my brain started to ache! Thank you so much to everyone who contributed in any shape or form, whether in supplying resources, praying, working behind the scenes, or in the week itself. And thank you to Laura and Rabea for their amazing leadership and enthusiasm.

As Rosemary will encourage us below, let's continue to pray that the Lord will finish the work he has begun in the lives of everyone involved, including those who were serving. In Isaiah (55.11) God reminds us that the "*word that goes out from my mouth shall not return to me empty, but it will accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.*" Although we may not know the details of that purpose, we can rest assured that our labour in the Lord will not be in vain.

So let us all continue to serve the Lord with gladness.

Grace and peace to you all

Duncan

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: Isaiah 55.6-13; Matthew 13.13-20

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

Reading: Matthew 13:1-23

Click [here](#) for the Service Sheet

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

7pm - Revive at St Leonard's



NEXT WEEK

Monday 3rd August

Bump to One will be meeting from **10.30am to midday** in the **Church Hall** this week.

Wednesday 5th August

The funeral of the late **Nicholas Goodwin** will be held at **St Leonard's** at midday on **5th August**.

NEXT SUNDAY 9th August

9am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's

9.30am - Morning Prayer at St Peter's

10.30am - Morning Worship at St Leonard's

Prayer for the Holiday Club... really? YES!

Please continue to pray ...

- about the ongoing impact the Holiday Club will make on the families whose children came - through what the children talk about and what they sing!
- about the contacts Laura, Rabea, Duncan, Carmen and all the wonderful volunteers will continue to have with the families as they meet folk around the village...

Finally, **thank God** for EVERYONE who participated and made the week such a good time for all, including you as you prayed!

We would like to properly organise the **library and welcome area at St Leonard's**, but to do so we need to purchase some new shelves. If you are able to make a contribution towards the cost, please speak to Mike Sinfield. Many thanks.



CREATION CARE

It has been great to look at scripture to explore a biblical understanding for the place that creation holds in the purposes of God. We are almost there! If you would like to catch up on progress or review, links to the notes are all below. Clearly the

Old Testament has a high view of creation in the purposes of

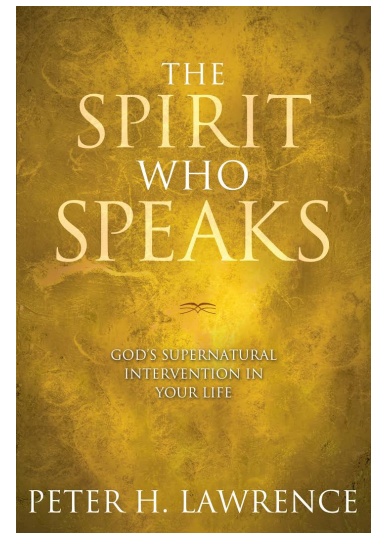
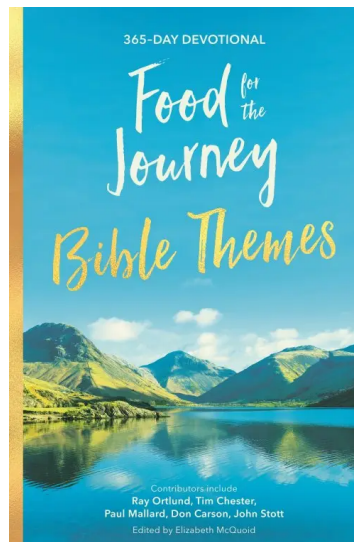
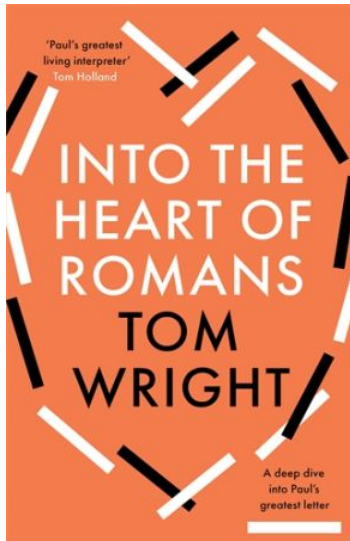
God for all things. Our last session will examine whether the New Testament is interested in creation at all, and if so, how it builds on the theology of the Old

Testament. These studies are aiming to provide a biblical basis for our work in Creation Care.

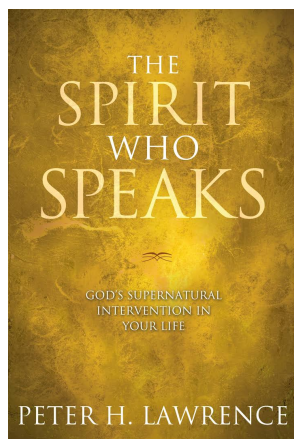
[Creation Care 1 - How God relates to Creation & Creation to God](#)

[Creation Care 2 - Humanity's role within creation & Creations frustration](#)

[Creation Care 3 - Israel and the Land / Creation in the Prophets](#)



Book recommendations for summer reading



The Spirit Who Speaks - Peter H. Lawrence

Recommended by Gill Sinfield

Peter Lawrence was a Church of England Vicar. Whilst writing this book, he was diagnosed with terminal cancer. Written with humour and honesty, the book is about Peter's journey in learning to hear the Holy Spirit speak.

A good book to read for the summer?

There's a **new selection of books on the St Peter's book trolley.**

Inspiring biographies and other devotional books to take away on holiday with you. Also, some of the St Peter's library can now be found in the village "Little Libraries"

The Lions need to go hungry this year!!!

It's too long since we have had a win.

It's **The Christians vs the Lions Aunt Sally.**

The Church vs the Red Lion Cassington.

We've done it before and we can do again.

"It's coming home, it's coming home.

The Doll is coming home!" (repeat ad nauseam)

Just turn up at the **Red Lion, garden Cassington.**

Sunday 9th August 2.00pm onwards.

Roger Aston



Creation Care – the Climate Crisis:

How have you been surviving the unprecedented heatwaves this summer?

What has been your reaction to the devastating wildfires in France and Spain?

There is much evidence produced by the IPCC* that the pace of climate

change is accelerating around the world causing more intense heat waves, more extreme storms and fiercer droughts causing food insecurity.

If we are concerned to protect the planet that God has created for us, including for future generations, particularly where lives and livelihoods are more affected in poorer countries, what should we be doing about it?

- Pray to God, lamenting our failure to be good stewards of the planet, asking for mercy and for God to come to our aid, and asking for more action by governments and individuals; and at the same time trusting in God's loving care to always be there for us.
- Prayerfully consider our own carbon footprint and how we can reduce our emissions in our daily lives – and take action on this! We'll be putting suggestions in Newswire and on the Noticeboard in the coming months. Meanwhile, have a look at the United Nations [Actions for a healthy planet](#) about 'how we can protect our environment and slow climate change'. And/or register with CreationCare.org.uk to work towards a household award (similar to the A Rocha Church Awards but for households)

- Sign up to VoteClimate.uk and sign their petition to let the government know you want them to tackle the climate emergency.

* [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#) (a UN body)

Jenny Griffiths & Sally Owen

Dave Russell

Dave has recently moved to Oaken Holt care home. If you are planning a visit, please contact Alex to see if you can give her a lift. She normally travels by bus, but it is a long walk up hill from the bus stop. Please keep praying for Dave and Alex as they adjust to this change.



The image shows a woman with short brown hair and glasses, wearing a red cardigan over a floral dress, standing next to a large map. She is holding a blue folder. The map is titled 'MASTER PLAN' and shows a green landscape with a river and a building. To the left of the woman is a vertical sign with yellow arrows pointing up and down, labeled with names like 'A+ 1000', 'A+ 2000', 'A+ 3000', 'A+ 4000', 'A+ 5000', 'A+ 6000', 'A+ 7000', 'A+ 8000', 'A+ 9000', 'A+ 10000'. The background is a solid blue color.

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Please pray for:

- For Marcella recovering from surgery.
- For Helen and Mike and their family. Helen is in a mother and baby unit with their son Nathan in Birmingham with postpartum psychosis
- Dave following his move to Oaken Holt care home.
- Ben and healing for his mental health.
- 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)