



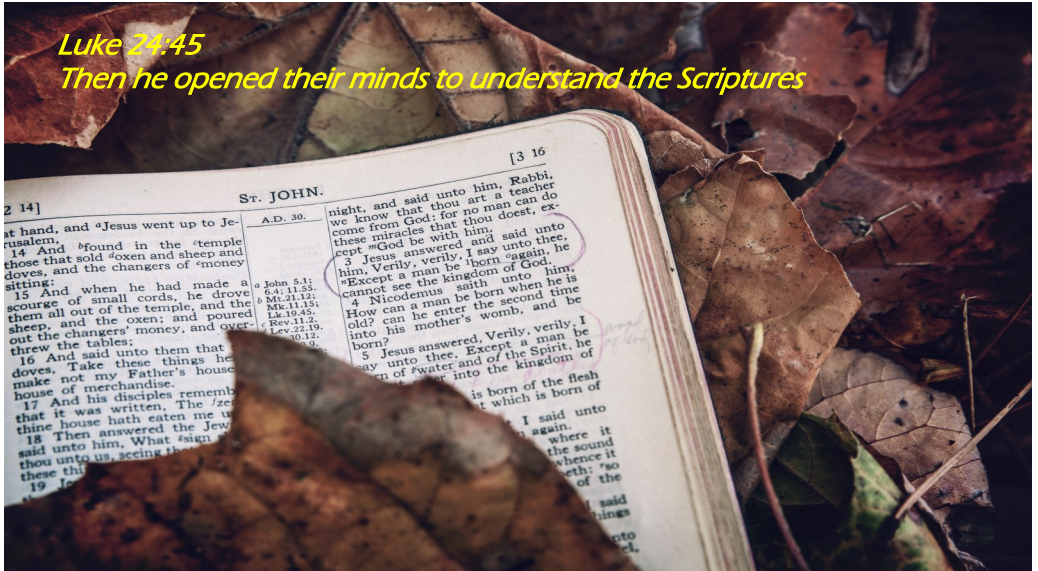
Learning
to Live the
Life
CHRIST CHURCH DOWNEND

Christ Church Life

Christ Church Downend +
The Church Centre, Quakers Road

Luke 24:45

Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures



November 2018

Welcome to Christ Church

If you are here for the first time, please do make yourself known to one of the welcomers after the service and complete one of our 'Welcome' cards. Children and Youth groups take place during the 10.30am Sunday Services. New children are welcome to join these groups which start at approximately 10.50am. More details about the life of the church can be found on the website.

Prayer

If you would value prayer about absolutely anything, there are members of the Prayer team who are always ready to pray for you and with you near the font.

Contact the Parish Office on 0117 908 9867 email: office@christchurchdownend.com

Web: www.christchurchdownend.com

Instagram: [@christchurchdownend](https://www.instagram.com/christchurchdownend)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/christchurchdownend>

Twitter: [@ChristChDownend](https://twitter.com/ChristChDownend)

Youth Website: <http://www.igniteyouth-christchurchdownend.co.uk/>

Facebook CCD Community: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/christchurchcommunity1/>

Items for December's Christ Church Life - Please email **Parish office** on life@christchurchdownend.com by **Friday 23 November 2018**

Sunday Services

Sun 4 Nov

Open to Creativity

Exodus 31:1-11

9.15am Morning Worship

Christ Church Centre , Quakers Road

10.30am Morning Worship Christ Church

6.30pm Holy Communion

Christ Church

Sun 11 Nov

Remembrance Sunday

Open to Difference & Diversity

1 Corinthians 1:18-end

9.15am Holy Communion

Church Centre

10.30am Holy Communion Christ Church

6.30pm Remembering with Thanksgiving

Christ Church

Sun 18 Nov

Open to God's Purposes

Matthew 28:16-end

9.15am Morning Worship

Church Centre

10.30am Morning Worship with Adult &

Infant Baptisms Christ Church

6.30pm Holy Communion

Sun 25 Nov

Open Doors Sunday

Open to the Spirit and the mystery of God's healing

9.15am Holy Communion Church Centre

10.30am Morning Worship with prayer for healing

Christ Church

6.30pm Spirit Space

Christ Church

Sun 2 Dec

9.15am Morning Worship Church Centre

10.30am Christingle service for all ages

Christ Church

4.00pm Christingle Service with uniformed organisations Christ Church

6.30pm Holy Communion Christ Church

Midweek Communion

Thursdays at 9.30am Christ Church

Sermon recordings for Sunday 10.30am and 6.30pm and Thursday 9.30am services can be found at www.christchurchdownend.com



Curate coming soon

It was with great joy on our Harvest Thanksgiving that we were able to share the news that the Diocese has invited us to have a curate. Aidan Watson and his wife Cathie are in their late 20's and are currently training at Trinity College, Bristol. Aidan will be ordained next year and Cathie in 3 years time. It will be wonderful to welcome them in July. Paul will continue as Associate Minister living at Glendale and the Diocese will find accommodation for Aidan and Cathie close to Downend.

Aidan writes, 'as we visited the church and got to know Jo and Shahne, we felt clearly that this was where God was calling us to go. In particular, we are excited to be a part of the vision to help encourage and equip one another to represent Jesus on our frontlines, whatever they might be!'

Please keep both Aidan and Cathie in your prayers over the coming months.

November What's On

A HUGE thank you

..... to everyone who helped to make the Opening Weekend so very special. An enormous amount of work and creative planning went into making it the outstanding celebration it was. As one person put it "Wow was the word of the weekend!" The star of the show was most definitely the stone floor!

The building really has taken on a new lease of life and has already been used in all kinds of ways. Like any project on this scale there are teething problems, not least with the heating (too hot!!) and quality of the sound. These issues are being addressed and we are learning each week how to manage the new challenges as they arise. As we do this together with patience and grace God will continue to build His church and bring glory to His Name.

Confirmations at Christ Church - Monday 26th November 7pm

People of all ages from across the deanery will be gathering at Christ Church to give thanks and to pray for those who have decided to confirm their baptism promises to follow Christ and commit themselves to His cause. We have a number of young people and adults who are ready to take this step but it is not too late to be included. If you would like to explore this option please get in touch with Paul or Jo ASAP. For any who have not yet been baptised, there will be baptisms by full immersion in church on Sunday 18th November at 10.30. Let us unite in celebration and prayer to give thanks for what God has done in the lives of all these people.

Christ Church Christmas Fayre will be held in the Church on Saturday 24 Nov. Doors open at 2pm. There will be many stalls and refreshments in the Church. Stalls include Mothers' Union, Neema Crafts, Mercy Ships and Mission Direct.

In the Parish Hall there will be puppets at 3pm and 4pm together with games and children's activities, and also our own bouncy castle.

Mothers' Union 6 Nov 2.15pm Parish Hall Graham Steer will be talking about "Life and Faith of George Muller".

Open Church has moved back to the Church building. It opens at 8.30am for tea, coffee, quiet time and prayer. At 9.30 there will be a short reading with reflection for the week ahead—this is conducted by Andy Smith. At 11am there is a Bible study in the Garden Room.

Remembering with Thanksgiving

On Sunday 11th November we shall be holding a service of reflection at 6.30 pm at the Parish Church when candles will be lit as we remember the lives of loved ones who have died. If you would like the name of a loved one to be read out during the service please add their names to the list at the Welcome Desk in church. Many of the families who have been bereaved during the last 12 months will join us for this moving act of thanksgiving.



Kathy Prosser has been an active member of Christ Church for many years.

She has worked for Christ Church Downend as Pastoral Coordinator/Parish Safeguarding Officer (2013-2015), Head of Ministry of Wholeness, Pastoral Care, Safeguarding (2015-June 2017) and is currently a Chaplain with specific ministry in local sheltered/residential homes and links into local hospitals.

What does being a chaplain mean to you?

The core of my understanding of chaplaincy is Ezekiel 34:15-16 "I will search for the lost, bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured, strengthen the weak...and then I will shepherd the flock with justice."

I believe to be a chaplain is to be a tangible, visible example of Christ's compassion for those who suffer and who are on the margins of both society and of Church; to be someone who represents the compassion of the Church to these people.; to notice the signs of God's kingdom and to encourage others

I believe that a chaplain is someone who brings hope to others in all circumstances.

What do you enjoy most about your chaplaincy role?

I enjoy meeting with people of all walks of life, encouraging them in diverse and creative ways to encounter the love of God.

I meet people, families and employed carers through visits to their home, visits to local residential and sheltered homes, offering them counsel, communion services, anointing with oil and prayer, particularly at times of end of life.

One day is never the same as the next. I value being in the company of another, listening to their story and being affected and changed by this.

In this, I experience the presence of God in community.





What is your purpose behind bringing home communion to people?

I have been taking home communion to people for 6 years and I coordinate visits by the whole home communion team.

It is possible for people through changes of physical health, mental health, hospital admission or social circumstances, to lose contact with the community of the Church.

Home communion plays a pivotal role in building relationship between the gathered and the scattered Church. It is like a bridge which enables those who feel isolated from the Church to once again feel part of the family of God, of which we are all members.

People often comment on the significance and spiritual encouragement offered through home communion. Some have rediscovered Christian faith while others speak of coming to a new experience of faith.

You are also a Spiritual Director. What does this mean to you?

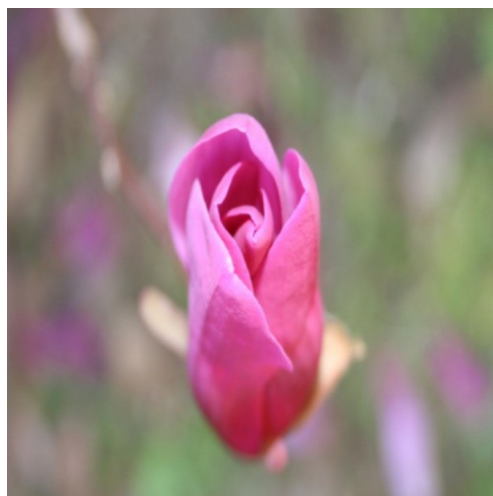
Spiritual direction is the encounter of God, as one person accompanies another in a journey of spirituality.

For me, it is a privilege to sit with, listen to the story of a person's life/spirituality, reflect on and notice how God is present in that story.

At all times, God directs the accompaniment.

If you want to know more about spiritual direction, please do not hesitate to have a chat with Kathy.

If you seek a Chaplain visit or home communion, please contact: chaplain@christchurchdownend.com or telephone 07860 150657.



Frontline prayer focus

Our prayer focus this month is for people from social services and the Council. Please pray for social workers, and those who work for the Council . Please pray for the members of our congregation who are involved in these fields.

Altar Flower Rota

4 Nov Nita & Ray Hackney
11 Nov May Ann & Stephen Taylor
18 Nov Available
25 Nov Available

Our Altar Flowers are funded by members at Christ Church who want to recognise a special anniversary or in memory of a loved one. If you want to join the flower rota please speak to Maggie Nichols.

CAP News

If you'd like to get involved with the CAP Ministry please come to our 'Befriender Training Workshop' on Sat 10 Nov, 10.30am-1pm @ CC Garden Room. Please contact Leyla if you're interested: leylafellows@capuk.org

Every year we like to bless our clients with Christmas Hampers. We'd really appreciate **Christmas food donations** for our Food Bank e.g. biscuits, chocolates, mince pies. Deadline date for donations is Sun 25 Nov. Thank you

CAP Prayer Group The next meeting is on Tues 20 Nov 7.30pm at Nigel & Belinda's 29 Charnhill Drive, Mangotsfield, BS16 9JR. All welcome and there's no obligation to pray out loud.

Open Doors monthly prayer meeting for persecuted Christians has a change of venue for November. It will be on Tues 20 November 9.30am at 60 Leap Valley Crescent.

Christ Church Fellowship 13 Nov 7.45pm Parish Hall Sue Goodland of Wessex Water will be talking on "Down the Plughole"
Tickets are now available for the Christ Church Fellowship Christmas Dinner on Tue 11 Dec from the Parish Office.or Maggie Nichols

Women in Work group Come and spend some time reflecting on your faith, work and life with others who will have gone through similar experiences. We meet monthly on the first Tuesday. The next meeting is Tues 6 November, 7.45pm in the Youth Hub.

Malcolm and Gwenda Coles would like to thank everyone who made enquiries and showed expressions of kindness following Malcolm's recent fall and time in hospital.

Bereavement Group—this is held monthly in the Garden Room at Christ Church. It is a small friendly group who meet for a chat, refreshments and support. The next meeting is Tue 20 Nov at 2pm. Newcomers welcome.

Messy Church - 21 November 4.30pm to 6.30pm. All welcome, includes crafts, chat, cups of tea, a short child-friendly, noisy time of worship and ends with a hot home-cooked meal. It is a free event but we do have a donations pot if you want to contribute. No need to book but if you message our Facebook page it helps our numbers for catering. Check our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/MessyChurchCCD>

Mahabba Prayer meet monthly to pray in love for local Muslims. Contact the Parish Office for more details.

Messy Church

Thank you to our newest Messy Church home cook, Alan Campbell. We are always looking for extra helpers. If you feel God nudge you to come—we would love to have you. Come for washing up at 6pm or be on the Welcome Desk at 4.30-6.30 pm or cook a meal at home for us. Please speak to Rosie, Helen or Anita.

Christ Church Parish Weekend at Lee Abbey - 27-29 September 2019 - Lee Abbey conference, retreat and holiday centre sits on a beautiful 280 acre site on the edge of Exmoor on the North Devon Coast. Although the official booking deadline has now passed there are still some spaces, so if you're able to join us, please complete and return a booking form asap. To see more of what Lee Abbey has to offer visit <https://leeabbeydevon.org.uk/> [Booking forms](#) are available on the church website or from the office.

Urgent prayer needs - contact Mary Freestone will pass on prayer requests to a group of praying people, who pray as soon as they receive the message. Remember to check with the person concerned that they are happy for the request to go public. 9566630
ianandmaryfreestone@gmail.com

Film Night Saturday 10th November in the Parish Hall when Lion starring Dev Patel and Nicole Kidman will be showing. Doors open from 7 pm. BYO snacks and drinks.
All donations will go towards the Haven House Mission Trip.

Wild Goose Café serving the homeless - Lorraine Cooper, Richard and Elizabeth Ward's homegroup has served in the Wild Goose café in Easton once a month for some years but will be stepping down at the end of the year. If anyone feels called to be involved in serving the homeless through this ministry, you can ask Lorraine and the Wards about their experiences or get in touch with Steve Smith at Crisis Centre Ministries steve.smith@crisis-centre.org.uk.

Join our Christmas Choir

Come and join this fun choir as we prepare for our Carols by Candlelight services on December 16. Being able to read music is not essential: parts will be recorded for you to listen to at home. Rehearsals are Thurs 8, 15, 22, 29 November and Thurs 6, 13* December. All rehearsals are 7.30 - 9 pm except * 8-9.30pm. On the big day: rehearsal 2 -4 pm; 1st Carol service 4.30pm; light tea available for performers; 2nd service 7pm. Ideally, singers need to attend all rehearsals. For more information speak to Helen Owens helenkucharek@hotmail.com

Invitation to 'Standing Strong' Open Doors Celebration 2018. Come and meet speakers from North Korea, Egypt and India as they share their testimonies of courageous faith in the face of extreme adversity @ Birmingham 17 November 10am—4pm. Bethel Convention Centre. Go to www.opendoorsuk.org to book your place. More details from Mary Massey or Ann Travers.

Weekly Events

Mondays

9.15am

7.45pm

Morning Prayer @ Christ Church—Trinity Chapel

Alpha @ Youth Hub

Tuesdays

9.30am

11am

3.15pm

3.30 - 4.30pm

Open Church

Reading and Reflection for the week @ Christ Church

Bible Study @ Christ Church

Tuesday Drop in (Yrs 6,7&8) @ Youth Hub

Tuesday Move It Club (Yrs 3-5) @ Pendennis Flats

Wednesdays

7am

2pm

6.30pm

8-9.15pm

Kingdom Prayer @ Youth Hub

Stroke Gardening Group @ Garden Room CC

Elev8 @ Youth Hub

Elev8+ (Yr 9 plus) @ Youth Hub

Thursdays

9.30-11.30am

6.30pm

8pm

Holy Communion & Open Church @ Christ Church

Ignite Youth Group

Ignite+ Youth Group

Fridays

9.45am

3.15pm

Jigsaw Toddlers Group @ Christ Church

Youth Drop in (Yrs 9-11) @ Youth Hub

November dates for your diary

Monday 5

Tuesday 6

Thursday 8

Saturday 10

Tuesday 13

Thursday 15

Monday 19

Tuesday 20

Tuesday 20

Wednesday 21

Thursday 22

Saturday 24

Thursday 29

Sunday 25

Craft Group 1.30-3pm @ Garden Room CC

MU "Life & Faith of George Muller" 2.15pm @ Parish Hall

Christmas Choir Rehearsal 7.30pm @ CC

Film Night @ Parish Hall 7.20-9.20pm

CC Fellowship "Down the Plughole" 7.45pm @ Parish Hall

Christmas Choir Rehearsal 7.30pm @ CC

Craft Group 1.30-3pm @ Garden Room CC

Prayer for Persecuted Christians 9.30am @ 60 Leap Valley Cresc

Bereavement Support Group 2-4pm @ Garden Room CC

Messy Church 4.30 - 6.30pm @ Parish Hall

Christmas Choir Rehearsal 7.30pm @ CC

Christmas Fayre @ CC and Parish Hall 2pm—5pm

Christmas Choir Rehearsal 7.30pm @ CC

Spirit Space 6.30pm @ CC