

The Net

October 2025

God, of your goodness, give me yourself for you are enough for me. And I can ask for nothing less that can fully honour You. And if I ask for nothing less, ever shall I be in want, for only in you have I all.

Julian of Norwich



The Mission Community of Littleham, Holy Trinity, Exmouth & Lympstone

RAINBOW FAIR 2025

Has been going for over 40 years now. It is an effective way of raising money for Christian Aid by bringing churches and stalls together in one hall and collectively displaying good quality items for sale. Each church is given a rainbow colour and the colour progresses each year. Cakes and coffee too!

2025:- Littleham/Holy Trinity ARE GOING GREEN!









whilst Lympstone ARE VIOLET









Saturday October 11th [09.30 to 12.00] Glenorchy U.R.Church.

Everyone Welcome Admission Free Can you help?

All items will be gratefully received. Thanks to all who have already donated. We need cakes please to keep the contract on the poster "TEA COFFEE & A CAKE 1.50". Goods of other colours can easily be transferred so please bring to church or to the Office OR to Littleham Hub or just ring for me to collect.

Christian Aid continues to help people out of poverty in 3 ways:-

- 1. Implementing Long Term Development Work.
 - e.g. Helping farmers improve their yield, creating drainage and irrigation, helping with education
- 2. Responding to Emergencies.
 - e.g Supporting refugees with food and shelter; reacting quickly to natural disasters.
- - Climate Change and holding countries to the commitment they made in COP agreements to support the most affected, poorest, blameless nations.

John Elms (07895423334 elmsjb@gmail.com)

CHRISTIANS GATHER TO PRAY AT START OF NATIONAL WEEK OF PRAYER

On Saturday 6 September, approximately 80 people representing churches of different denominations across Exmouth joined together at Holy Trinity church for 2 hours of worship, praise and most of all prayer.



The event was held in order to connect with the National Week of Prayer which ran from 6 to 13 September.

Topics prayed for were our nation and our leaders both nationally and locally; our young people especially those at Exmouth Community College and those who work with them both within the school and in youth groups; and our local community with a particular focus on Open Door and its work with the homeless and other people who are struggling for all kinds of reasons.

We are very blessed in Exmouth to have such unity among our churches who have a common purpose to serve and reach our community and obviously to pray for you

MISSION COMMUNITY INFORMATION

CHURCH SERVICES

HOLY TRINITY

Every Sunday 10.00am Sung Eucharist

Except on 12 October at 10.00am Family Communion

St. MARGARET & St. ANDREW LITTLEHAM

Open to God see Link for details.

Sunday 5 October - Harvest 10.00 am Awake Church

Sunday 12 October - Trinity 17 10.00 am Sung Eucharist

Sunday 19 October 10.00 am Awake Church

Sunday 26 October- Bible Sunday 10.00 am Sung Eucharist

LYMPSTONE PARISH CHURCH

Sunday 5 October - Harvest 8.00 am Morning Prayer 9.30 am Journey

Sunday 12 October - Trinity 17 8.00 am Morning Prayer 9.30 am Sung Eucharist

Sunday 19 October - Trinity 18 8.00 am Said Eucharist 9.30 am Journey

Sunday 26 October - Bible Sunday 8.00 am Morning Prayer 9.30 am Sung Eucharist

MID WEEK SERVICES at 11.30 am

1 October - Littleham BCP

8 October - Holy Trinity CW

15 October - Lympstone CW

22 October - Holy Trinity BCP

29 October - Lympstone CW

CLERGY — READERS — STAFF

	Clergy			Day Off
The Revd Steven Jones	Team Rector	263681 Office	01395 266442	Friday
The Revd Benedict Cambridge	Team Vicar	263681 hours	07535480077	Thurs
The Revd Shaun Tipton	Assistant Curate	263681		
The Revd Heidi Budden	Aaaistant Curate	263681		Friday

A NEW HOME FOR FLAGS & COPY DATES

Sadly, at the moment we are unable to fly any flags at Holy Trinity

DEADLINE FOR THE NOVEMBER NET

is Friday 16 October

It will be published on Sunday 2 November
Articles and pictures to Tony Mortimer
e - mail: neteditors@gmail.com

Readers and Clergy who also play an active role in the Mission Community

Readers: Demelza Henderson, Di West

Clergy: The Ven. Canon Dr Trevor Jones,

Reverends. Ian Blyde, Jim Gosling,

Peter Nickols Rawle,

Canon John Philpott, & Canon Ian Pusey

all of whom can be contacted via the Mission Community Office

THE RECTOR WRITES ON THE YEAR OF

DISCIPLESHIP



At our Joint Mission Community service at Holy Trinity on the 31 August I shared that our ministry focus for 2025 was going to be *The Year of Discipleship*.

Discipleship could be said to be the process by which each Christian grows in their faith. There are, I believe, at least three aspects to effective discipleship: knowledge, intimacy, and service.

To grow as a disciple, you need to continue to develop in your knowledge, most particularly in your knowledge of what God has said about Himself, about you, and about the world. That knowledge is in the Holy Bible. Now, some people say that once they have come to know Christ and are walking faithfully as part of his Church, they do not need to continue to personally pursue a deepening knowledge of the Bible – that what they receive on a Sunday is enough. I cannot agree with that. The job of the sermon on a Sunday is not to teach the congregation anything, but to provoke congregation to go away and study the Bible for themselves, like the Bereans (Acts 17:11). Famously, J Gresham Machen in his book What is Faith?, argues that there are a number of fundamental facts from the Bible that every Christian must come to know and to master. I also believe that each one of us who follows Christ needs to know the core elements of the Christian faith to the degree that we can explain them to someone else.

This is the foundation stone upon which we can continue to grow our faith. So, our Year of Discipleship will involve many new ways in which we can come to a deeper knowledge of the Bible. Disciples also grow spiritually only when they grow in intimacy with God. Seeking intimacy means that you seek God in prayer in

such a way that year on year you feel that you know Him more personally, and that you open more of yourself up to Him. As I have grown in faith and trust my own intimacy with God has expanded the more that I have been silent for extended periods and listened to God speak. I have come to learn that God is always communicating with me – the problem is that I am too often talking so that I miss Him. So, our Year of Discipleship will focus more on prayer than we ever have before. We have a 9.00 am Monday morning prayer meeting at Holy Trinity, a 9.00 am Wednesday morning prayer meeting at Littleham, and a 4.00 pm Thursday afternoon prayer meeting at Lympstone. If you cannot attend one of these prayer gatherings, please join us by praying at home at the same time.

To grow as a disciple, you also need to grow in service. In Ephesians St. Paul tells us that God has prepared in advance work for each Christian to do in the life of the Church. My own conviction is that it is impossible to make much progress in your life as a disciple of Jesus Christ, unless you are serving in the life of the local church. Serving does not need to mean having a demanding or upfront role. Any form of service of God and others will provoke you to grow in love, faith and trust. Service could be making coffee, helping set up for a service, washing liturgical linens, praying at home for specific elements of the Church's ministry or giving toward the children's families and youth ministry. It is less important what you do, but more important your heart in doing it.

Therefore, in this Year of Discipleship we will be helping people to learn about the many opportunities across the Mission Community to serve in large and small ways. In the Great Commission, Jesus told His followers, 'Go into all the world, making disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey all that I have commanded you. And I will be with you to the end of the age.' My hope and prayer for 2025/26 is that we will, together, take some big steps forward in fulfilling this mission.

Steve Jones Rector

FOOTBALL4ALL

BEACH LABYRINTH





Tonight was the first of the Football4all group - we had 15 young people who came and joined in, most of them were not from the youth group - so it was really encouraging to get to know some young people that currently arn't involved with any youth groups etc. The team of volunteers were amazing and from 4 different churches across Exmouth.

A LITTLE BRAIN TEASER



Can you tell us who this handsome/beautiful couple are? No prizes but if you think you can identify them send your guess to Tony Mortimer at neteditors by the copy date for the November edition , see page 2 for the date and full email address A clue if you need it, they are regular worshippers at one of the Mission Community churches. We hope to have up to date pictures of them next month.





On a fairly grey and chilly day the Beach Labyrinth was built by several energetic volunteers. When completed it was walked by those who wanted to explore its spiritual dimensions or just have a bit of a laugh. There is of course much more to the experience than that. If you have access to the internet it is well worth search for Beach Labryrinth . Here are a few lines written by one of the peple who built a Labyrinth on Bournemouth beach, I thought worth sharing:-

Building the labyrinth has an uncanny parallel with life. Each pebble is like a moment of our life. Don't we lay the path of our life, hour by hour, day by day, month by month, through what we do and how we show up? There is no labyrinth path until we create it and the same is true with our life. It seems obvious when you say it, yet I found this awareness a welcome reminder that living our life is a creative act every single day

John Watters, Co-Founder, Centre for Spirituality.

SEA BAPTISM

(Stacie James is a member of St Michael's Otterton. She is training to be a Licensed Lay Minister and on placement with Revd Benedict for September).

I have only ever seen baptisms happen inside actual church buildings with a big font (where there is definitely no seaweed!). So standing on Exmouth Beach, watching people walk straight into the waves to be baptised, honestly felt like stepping into another world for a minute. It was the same sacrament that I have always known, but the setting made it feel almost wild and raw; in a really epic way.

Baptisms in churches feel really comfortable, and soothing in a way. Maybe it's because the whole setting is so familiar; the polished font, the ordered liturgy, and the reassuring predictability of it all. It feels safe and contained. But as I thought about it, I realised it's the same God at work in both places; the God who formed our oceans, calmed the storms and split the sea. Maybe it's just that, inside Church walls, his power feels domesticated; held within stone arches and liturgy.



The sea baptism reminded me that He isn't contained at all. The wildness of the waves showed me that baptism is

about death and resurrection; about surrendering to a God who is far bigger than we can control. The sea baptism couldn't be hidden behind walls; it was loud and public. Truthfully, I think that made it hit harder. Watching the chap wade into the cold, choppy sea (Rev'd Benedict, on one side, Nick White on the other), to be totally immersed — it just clicked in a way that I'd never noticed before.

Going under water wasn't just a bit of water on the head. It looked like vanishing, like being swallowed up temporarily. And then, a few seconds later, he was brought up out of the water, dripping wet, smiling. It was resurrection. Paul's words about being buried with Christ and raised with him came alive, right there in the waves.



The weather had been quite grim for most of the day; pouring rain, grey skies, and a chilly wind that makes you regret your clothing choices! I half expected the whole thing to be cancelled. But just before 6pm, the rain stopped and, no word of a lie, a rainbow stretched across the sky. After hours of gloom, it felt like God signed the whole service with his very own exclamation mark! A reminder of His promises, painted right above us.

I walked away smiling, feeling so uplifted, a little bit cold, sand in my trainers, but also with the sense that I'd witness something huge. Baptism isn't just about what happens in a person's heart, it's about God breaking into the world, claiming lives, renewing creation. And sometimes, when you least expect it, he even throws in a rainbow for emphasis!

Stacie James

MISSION COMMUNITY OFFICIALS & CONTACT DETAILS

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NOTES FROM THE FRONTIER: CHAPLAINCY AT ECC

Thank you for your prayers for the chaplaincy work at ECC. Once again I apologize for not providing more updates throughout the year but please know that your support is valued and important, and God is at work!

I've just started my 2nd year as Chaplain and the term has started positively. I have started a Year 7 Friendship Club which is mostly about eating cake and chatting. It came about after my Year 6 visits in the summer term where a lot of concerns were around making friends and not feeling lonely. I will be resuming my Chapel Club for KS3 students which is more explicitly faith based.

I am hoping to relaunch Fish for KS4 and KS5 students; however, a large number of last year's students were Year 11 and have moved on to Exeter College. Please pray that more from this older age group will be interested in coming along and exploring the Christian faith.

You may remember that I worked with the Religion, Philosophy and Ethics Department on a Religions and Worldview survey last term. We had over 600 responses which demonstrated that there is interest in spirituality, but also quite a lot of resistance to religion in any form. It also showed the growing cultural diversity amongst our students, and the need to learn how to embrace and talk about differences. We are planning on tweaking the survey and rolling it out again this year.

THANK YOU FROM JIM BEED

my thanks to all in the congregation who made my birthday so memorable. The wine and cake went well.

Many of the fifty cards that I got were from members of the church congregation.



On Monday, which was the actual birthday, the family took me, by steam train, on a trip to Dartmouth.

It is hard to know what the year ahead will hold. If we look at the chaplaincy role through the eyes of a pioneering ministry then if the 1st year was about breaking up and ploughing the ground and scattering the seed, the 2nd year ought to be about seeing which seeds have sprouted and which haven't, and whether some seedlings need transplanting elsewhere, or whether the ground around the edges (or in the centre!) needs extra attention and nourishment. At the very least I am hoping for a greater involvement in assemblies and other whole-school activities, as well as strengthening relationships with staff members, and taking on more mentees.

Please continue to pray for the college: for the staff settling into the new school year with a focus on Belonging and Brilliance, and for the students still settling into their new curriculums, particularly Year 7. And please continue to pray for me, that the Lord will give me wisdom and discernment, and sensitivity and compassion...and energy! Thank you!



The picture is of the door of my new office (yes I have my own office space!):

Louise Prideaux

DEDICATE A ROSE THIS NOVEMBER

Celebrate the life of someone dear to you at Hospiscare's **Garden of Light**, where the grounds of Darts Farm will be transformed into a breathtaking display of glowing white roses. Each rose will shine brightly in memory of a loved one, creating a serene space to reflect, remember, and honour those who shaped our lives with their love.

Your dedication will not only create a beautiful tribute but also help provide specialist end-of-life care and support for patients and families across Exeter, central and east Devon.

Darts Farm, Topsham, EX3 0QH Wednesday 12 – Sunday 23 November 4pm – 8pm daily (Free Entry)

Find out more and dedicate a rose at: www.hospiscare.co.uk/garden



ECOCHURCH - THE SEASON OF CREATION

Adapted from an article by Green Christian

This sermon for the season of creation based on Luke 14: 1 and 7-14 was given by George Dow, Chair of Green Christian, at St Mary's Penzance, on 31 August 2025, on the eve of Creationtide.

The Gospel passage emphasises humility and generosity, specifically in the context of hospitality and community. It highlights the importance of prioritising the needs of others, especially those who are marginalised or unable to reciprocate, instead of seeking personal status or gain.

How should we be treating each other, how can we truly be inclusive and in community together. Christ's teaching in this reading might be applicable to not only humans with whom we share our lifetimes, but also to humans everywhere in the world, and to our descendants (our children, and perhaps grandchildren not yet born, great grandchildren and so on) and all future generations of our fellow humans everywhere in the world, indeed also to all our neighbours in creation both human and non-human, including animals and plants.

So, let's draw out some of the themes of the passage and explore how they might be applied in this context – to include all living things in God's beautiful creation.

The first is **Humility** – that we should have a humble relationship with our fellow creatures, and the land and the sea. Just as we are to be humble in our social interactions, as the passage clearly states, so too should we approach creation with a humble and non-exploitative attitude.

Examples of how humans exploit the earth are now well-known and reported on an almost daily basis, activities like deforestation for agriculture and resources, pollution of air and water from industrial processes and waste, the overconsumption of resources leading to depletion of freshwater, forests, and species, and the climate crisis driven largely by burning fossil fuels. These actions degrade habitats, reduce biodiversity, and disrupt vital natural systems, leading to negative consequences for ecosystems and human well-being.

Instead, we are called to recognise our place within creation, not above it, and steward its resources responsibly. Not subduing it for our own perceived needs, not dominating it for personal and immediate gain.

Every creature, no matter how seemingly insignificant or "unproductive," has intrinsic value and deserves care.

The second key theme is what we might call - **Going Beyond Reciprocity**.

The call to invite those who can't repay us mirrors the principle of caring for creation without demanding a tangible return. Our efforts to care should be motivated by a sense of duty and love for God's creation, not by what we stand to gain from it.

Think of those people whom we don't know and are already feeling the devastating effects of the climate crisis, whose homes and land have either been burned or flooded. And all the future generations who will ultimately suffer more of this unless urgent action is taken. They can't personally repay us, but wouldn't it be a wonderful legacy to hand over to them a world which was in a better state than it is now?

So, what might all this mean for us, at this time and in our own lives?

There is always more work to do in all of this, and we do our best to ensure that we maintain the good things we've achieved and look forward to other opportunities to serve, in reviewing our own personal lifestyles as Christians who value creation care.

Well, we know as a church, we are on a continuous Eco Church journey (We have EcoChurch awards in all churches in our mission community) We need to continue to love God's creation and share it with others.

ECOCHURCH EVENTS

Sarah Butcher, a local bat expert, led a Bat Walk around Littleham Church on 12th September. She gave us an interesting talk on bats and how to use bat detectors, then led us on a short walk around the church. Amazingly we heard four species of bats in the churchyard, (serotine, long-eared bat, common pipistrelle and noctule) and saw bats many flying overhead.



We plan to do further bat walks next Spring.

ECOCHURCH COFFEE MORNING

The next coffee morning is on Wed 12th November 10am -12. Sarah Charker (Creation Care Engagement Officer, Exeter Diocese) will give a talk on Carbon Confidence. All are welcome.

Sue & Roger Moseley

INTREPID ADVENTURER

At the end of October last year, I joined a very small, select band of adventurers and it has improved my life and ministry immeasurably. No, sadly, George and I will not be on the next series of Race Across the World. I started climbing again.



We are a small and select band because we are either church ministers or people in very public, you might say front line, rolls and climbing is the perfect antidote to the stress of our ministry. It is something that I realised I had been missing. When I was a curate, a friend and I would take our kayaks to the canoe slalom course at Matlock in Derbyshire. When you have your canoe sat on a standing wave and you can only keep it there with your entire focus on your balance and very small adjustments of posture and paddle, there is no room for stress or to be worrying over this pastoral issue or that PCC agenda. Climbing is very similar.

I have climbed before. When I left University, I worked for a few years at a Christian Outdoor Activities Centre in Tonbridge called Carroty Wood. I was an instructor there and taught kayaking and climbing among other things, so I have climbed in the past, but it was a long time ago and I was climbing on sandstone. We did take Samuel climbing a bit when he was small, that was also a long time ago – he's really not small now!

So, in October last year I went along with my adventurous friends to the Quay Climbing Centre in Exeter and it was brilliant! I found my climbing legs again pretty quickly and over the next few months my confidence grew. The 'light bulb' moment for me, however, was when we went outside. As soon as the weather improved and the evenings got long

enough, we were out on Dartmoor, climbing at Haytor and Hound Tor and Greator, or Chudleigh. There is nothing quite like making your climb, working out your route, overcoming difficult moves and then finishing at the top of the Tor, with the views over Dartmoor and that evening sun.

Getting outdoors also introduced me to lead climbing. All the climbing I had done before, indoors and on sandstone, had been top roping where there is a karabiner at the top of the climb, the rope goes through that, is attached to you the climber and the other end to your belayer who is able to snag the rope when you fall. In lead climbing, the climber is attached to the belayer but places a piece of gear into cracks in the rock as they climb (and their rope into that gear). It is technical and complex to navigate the knots, the placing of gear safely, the different belay technique required, safe



anchor points and all of this outside in the elements but it is exhilarating, and I know no better remedy for the stress of a busy ministry.

Benedict Cambridge

A MESSAGE FROM IAN PUSEY - THERE WILL BE CAKE & WINE!



In case you missed my email. We have a double celebration coming up in HT on Sunday 12 October! Not only will we mark Tom & Brenda Lowes' Diamond Wedding but also Eileen Alvis' 90th birthday.

Both should be marked next Sunday but we have postponed by a week as 5 October is the day of the Harvest Lunch. Therefore on 12 October we have a 90th and a diamond wedding with wine and the really good news – two cakes!

PATRON SAINTS IN OUR FAITH TODAY Mark Williamson

The much loved stained glass windows in Holy Trinity portray eight saints all of whom are 'patron' saints with four associated with our own area - St. Boniface (Devon), St. Sidwell (Exeter), St. Margaret of Antioch and St. Andrew (both Littleham). To explain more about 'patron' saints we must dig deeper.

In the New Testament the Greek word for 'saint' (hagios) appears 229 times and, in translation, over 60 times in the King James' version. In all cases it means a Christian believer, someone who has committed their life to God through the incarnation of Jesus the Christ, as in St. Paul's letters: 'Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the Will of God. To the saints who are faithful in Christ Jesus'. (Ephesians 1.1)

In the following centuries the community of Christians grew exponentially. By 100 AD it is estimated that there were around 7000, a small fraction of the population of the Roman Empire. By 1000 AD this had grown to between 45 and 50 million, mainly in Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, some 10% of the then world's population. It was natural for Christians to identify with those who had gone before them, who had bravely affirmed their belief, encouraged others and lived a life rooted in faith rather than the secular values of the time. In the 5th century Augustine of Hippo, a bishop in North Africa and described as the first theologian and biblical interpreter wrote that those who had gone before us in the faith can be turned to as intercessors for us in seeking God's grace.

Long before the canonisation process was officially regulated in 1630 by Pope Urban VIII saints began to be recognised by and within the Christian community. In 993 Pope John XV declared Ulrich, Prince-Bishop of Augsburg, a saint.. It was said that pregnant women who touched his chalice had an easier childbirth. Later, attestation of 2 miracles became a requirement of canonisation. Some 20,000 saints have never been officially canonised compared with the 10,000 who have. For example, St. Patrick, patron saint of Ireland has never been canonised and St. Christopher, known universally as patron saint of travellers, was removed from the official listing by Pope Paul V1 because there was no evidence he ever existed. It could be argued that the vitality of our Faith, especially in non-Western countries is reflected in the fact that the process of canonisation continues with over 1000 created since 2000, perhaps the most popular being Mother Teresa in 2016.

Most people, especially in England and Wales, associate patron saints with their own parish churches, a custom that originated as early as the 3rd century when churches were built on or near the site of a martyrdom. As Christianity spread so did consecrations of churches with the name of a particular saint, sometimes explained by a local association; others to unite us with that great communion of saints, past and present. Religious orders assume the patronage of their founders such as Benedict. Mediaeval guilds adopted patron saints to protect their trade or craft, sometimes supported by biblical reference. Joseph is the patron saint of carpenters, Matthew of bookkeepers, accountants, stockbrokers and tax collectors, Martha of

those who work in hospitality and both Andrew and Peter of fishermen. Other associations are derived from the lives of the saints themselves, so Francis is the patron saint not only of animals but ecologists and zoo keepers.

St Francis - in a church in Portugal



St. Anthony of Padua is the much interceded with patron saint of lost things because a young novice friar who stole his psalter was so stricken in conscience during a storm that he returned it and was forgiven. The Choir have their patron in St. Cecilia who 'heard heavenly music at her wedding' and 'sang to the Lord during her martyrdom'. The Flower Guild have St. Therese of Lisieux who was known as 'the Little Flower' and described herself as a humble wildflower blooming where God had planted her.

Countries which remain predominantly Christian have adopted patron saints but for different reasons. St. George was indeed a Christian and was martyred for his faith while an officer in the Roman army. His courage commended him to Edward 111 as an inspiration for the Crusaders. Both St. David and St. Patrick did live in the countries that adopted them although Patrick was not born there having been taken there as a slave by Irish pirates. St. Andrew who asked not to be crucified on a cross the same shape as that of Jesus but one X shaped became symbolised by a white cross on a blue background (the Saltire). In the Treaty of Arbroath in 1320 which declared the independence of Scotland Andrew became Scotland's adopted saint citing a vision of the cross by a former king, Angus, before a successful battle against the English. So what does this mean for us as we look at our stained

glass windows?

The answer, I think, is simple. We are not alone in the Faith. Before us have gone a multitude of Christian believers, like us human and sinful who have borne the

same tribulations of life as us but have chosen to serve God by following the example of Jesus. Within that multitude, too many to number, are individuals whose lives can inspire, guide and sustain us. They are now, as we hope to be 'in heavenly love abiding' and can and do, through prayer, enrich and strengthen our own faith as we follow in their footsteps.

CELEBRATIONS AND

A LITTLE LIGHT READING



For Claire White as she looks forward to her journey towards Ordination.

A BEAUTIFUL TRIBUTE AND DELICIOUS SNACKS





The Pop-Up Dining Room caterers' table decoration for afternoon tea after Enid Hayward's funeral and the beautiful flowers which adorned her coffin and were which were placed on the High Altar in Holy Trinity afterwards.

HAPPY 90th BIRTHDAY

FEEDING THE (NOT QUITE THE 5000, YET) BUT OUR HYGGE FAMILY



Jane and Mike Goom serving delicious trifles at Hygge on Sunday 21 September.

To Jim Beed and we did enjoy the cake!





MORE CELEBRATIONS

A FAMILY GATHERING

To celebrate John and Margaret's Diamond Anniversary. Pictured are of the 24 of us on the steps of the house and the second one is our anniversary meal.





BAPTISED AT SEA AND AT HOLY TRINITY





Left Stuart Mackenzie after his Baptism in the sea and right, Stuart and Elizabeth Bullock with their Baptismal Candles after Elizabeth's baptism at Holy Trinity.

DIDN'WE HAVE A LOVELY TIME?



The day we cruised up the River Exe. Yes in spite of the fairly miserable weather the party from our Mission Community did enjoy themselves on board the Stuart Lines vessel, the land lubbers among the party were surprised how different familiar sites looked from our view point on the water. As our picture shows some of the group were able to go to the upper deck during a pause in the rain. Of course all of us enjoyed the excellent cream tea!

Exmouth Food Bank Autumn 2025 Newsletter



Nova Fisher, centre, bringing in a weekly donation from the Lympstone allotment growers.

Demand for our services

During the summer months we experienced a seasonal influx of homeless males, many seeking work in the local pubs & restaurants. We worked closely with East Devon District Council to ensure that, wherever possible, these individuals were able to come off the street & access temporary accommodation. In addition, particularly during August, we saw a sharp increase in families seeking help to provide food for their children during the summer holidays.

Thank you to those of you who responded to our summer campaign for food items that could be used by parents to make nutritious packed lunches for their children. Your support was much appreciated – as were the amazing donations of fresh fruit & vegetables that were given to us by talented green fingered individuals, including the lovely allotment growers from Woodbury & Lympstone.

Community links

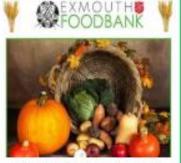
We recognise the importance of ensuring that as many people as possible know about the support we offer. To this end we have recently welcomed visits from the Lions Club (who are establishing a new branch in Exmouth), the Chair of Sidmouth Food Bank & the Mayor of Exmouth.

We work closely with local GP practices, including their team of Wellbeing Social Prescribers who work one to one with patients who have complex needs & who occasionally need our help with food. We were pleased to show Daniel Cudmore, a new member of their team, around the Food Bank in August to discuss the services we provide.

If you would like to visit us & find out more about our work please email info@exmouthfoodbank.org.uk or phone 07787 758511



The Mayor of Exmouth, Councillor Graham Deasy, visiting the Food Bank



Contact us if you would like a copy of our Harvest Festival poster to print & display

Preparations for Harvest Festival

Thank you in advance to those of you who will be championing Exmouth Food Bank during this year's Harvest Festival season. In preparation for an increase in demand for our services during the winter months we are planning to build up our stocks of essential tinned items. For a full list of the items we are short of please visit our website at: https://exmouthfoodbank.org.uk/donate-food/.

The Food Bank welcomes small deliveries of Harvest Festival donations during our normal sessions on Tuesdays and Fridays between 9am and 3pm at the Salvation Army Hall. If you have a large donation we can schedule a collection but would appreciate as much advanced notice as possible. Please phone us on 07787 758511 or email us at: info@exmouthfoodbank.org.uk to arrange details.

Donations of cat & dog food

Many of our clients not only struggle to feed themselves but also their much loved pets; in fact some of our clients, particularly the elderly and those that are socially isolated, go without food to ensure that their cat or dog is fed.

Pets at Home Exmouth, working in partnership with the Blue Cross, have kindly agreed to support us to address this issue. They have put a pet food drop box in their store so shoppers can donate items we are short of. In addition, on Saturday 9 August we were able to run a stall promoting our work. Thank you to all the amazing people who turned up to have a chat with us & who so generously donated pet food.



Tony & Diana Corrick who kindly donated several bags of cat food



BEING A PASTOR IN THE UKRAINE

Pastors in the Ukraine are continuing to minister to their beleaguered congregations, bringing comfort and hope into the most frightening and desperate war-torn situations.

So says Transform Europe Network, a Christian ministry which serves alongside indigenous Christians in Eastern Europe and the Balkans. In a recent report, it gives an update from one of its partners on the ground:

"Pastor Evgeniy serves in the war-torn Kherson region of southeastern Ukraine. Since 2022, he and a small group of volunteers have brought food, comfort, and hope to people living amid the destruction.

"Evgeniy and his team recently came to a village that had been shelled. One family's home was reduced to rubble, and their vital documents were buried. The team arrived in bright, civilian clothing, deliberately chosen to identify them as volunteers, not military. As they began to pull back the rubble, they remained calm, focusing on their priority to help the family escape.

"40 minutes later, the volunteers heard and saw a reconnaissance drone circling above them. They couldn't tell who it belonged to, but its presence was ominous. Then came a different sound — sharper, lower, and closer. A small military drone was heading straight for them. In a moment that could only be described as divine intervention, the drone clipped a tree branch and crashed to the ground next to the team's car.

"The team cautiously approached the drone, still twitching and sparking. Minutes later, a second drone appeared. It aimed for the fallen drone, possibly to trigger an explosion by striking the first. But it too missed its target—crashing about six meters from the car, hitting a nearby concrete wall rather than the group. No one was injured.

"But the volunteers knew then that they were under attack. They gathered their tools, helped the family into the vehicle, and drove away. Just seconds after they left, a third drone struck — right where their car had been parked moments before. The resulting

explosion could have easily taken their lives. But once again, by what they all believe was God's hand, they were spared.

"Reflecting on the events, Pastor Evgeniy was asked if he ever felt hatred or the desire for revenge. His answer was quiet, but unshakable

No. I just understand. I understand the pain. I understand the fear. But if we don't bring light into this darkness, who will?'

"For Evgeniy, war is not a reason to harden the heart—it's a call to deeper compassion. Even as drones fly overhead and homes crumble, he continues his ministry, bringing food, prayer, and humanity into places others flee from.

"This is what faith looks like in the ruins. It looks like a small group in bright vests, carrying hope into danger. It looks like a pastor who chooses grace over vengeance. And it looks like a God who protects, even when the bombs fall close."

Since the talks involving the US and a possible ceasefire, the local leaders testify that instead of de-escalation, they've experienced a significant rise in attacks and shelling.

Transform Europe Network (TEN) asks Christians in the UK:

Please pray for pastors and church teams, exhausted by serving many people on the frontline.

Pray for those who are confused, discouraged and angry, even with each other. Pray for healing and comfort from the Holy Spirit. Churches in Ukraine do all they can to reconcile local people, but it is getting harder and harder.

Mothers are afraid that their teenage sons will be taken away for conscription, which has become increasingly aggressive. This also causes men to run away from home and so many families are fractured and deeply stressed as the war grinds on.

More details at: https://ten-uk.org



Gladys Aylward Away Day in China

Part 5



In the charge of Gladys, her girls were unused to mountain walking because their feet had been bound, but she knew the paths well. Besides sleeping in villages, an old Buddhist monk allowed the children to sleep in his rat -infested temple. They met Nationalist soldiers who shared their food with them, while Japanese planes flew over them, they were ignored. By the twelfth day, they could see the mile-wide Yellow River.

They had expected to be offered food in the villages and to find boats; there was no sign of people or boats, and the villages were in ruins. The children were ordered to search for food, but Gladys continued to go without. When asked why God would not open the river for them, she told the children that she was not Moses and miracles were not for the asking. She invited them to kneel with her and pray. Their singing of hymns drew the attention of Nationalist soldiers whose officer said he could find a boat and that it would take three trips to get them all across. By this time, Gladys was not at all well, only crossing on the last trip.

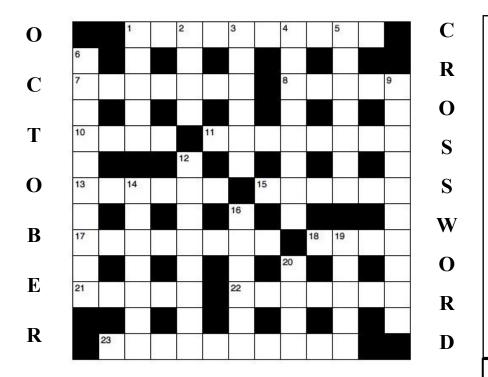
Food was found for them in a village two or three miles inland. Then a Police Inspector tried to arrest Gladys for crossing the river as it was supposed to be closed to all traffic. Her undisciplined children did not go unnoticed; they all shouted to let her go. Gladys was told to control them. She was informed of a refugee train that would take them towards Sian, with no fares to be paid. The children did not know what a train was, and on its arrival, they all fled. After four days, the train halted at Tiensan before a blown-up bridge. Sian was still many days' journey ahead. They restarted the next day on foot, but Gladys was so exhausted she began to cry. When the children cried with her, she finally ordered the children to stop crying and start singing as loud as possible. She was told that a coal train ran infrequently from Tung Kwan to Hwa Chow, which would take them nearer to Sian. One was due to leave in a few hours from a station nearby. After sleep, Ai -weh-deh/Gladys was woken up, and the children were wedged between lumps of coal. It was April 1940, and Gladys knew nothing of the war in Europe or America's participation.

When the train reached Hwa Chow, the children's faces and clothes were covered with coal dust, which much amused them. Though the town had been bombed, it was still beautiful. A refugee camp had been set up in a temple where Buddhists gave Ai-weh-deh medicine and told that a train would take the children on a three or four-day journey to Sian. They boarded the train and arrived at a station outside Sian, which was filled with refugees. Aiweh-deh received news that her orphans would be looked after at Fufeng where there were more than 500 disused temples in honour of Confucius. It took two more days to reach by train, where the children were given fresh clothes and shoes. Ai-weh-deh was invited to preach at a small Mission, but she was too ill to do so. Presently, she was found raving in delirium and then collapsed unconscious. Taken in an ox cart to a Mission at Hsing P'ing, a senior physician asked a friend to take Gladys by car to his home.

Most of the orphans had been taken off her hands, but Gladys was still responsible for her five adopted children. They went to school in Sian while Gladys's parents sent her some money. She took up work for the 'New Life' movement and opened a church for refugees in a disused factory. Linnan visited her and again asked her to marry him. Ai-weh-deh felt that marriage would complicate her work for the Lord. She heard from an American Methodist Mission near the border with Tibet that they needed an evangelist who spoke the Shansi dialect. Gladys applied, and expecting Ai-weh-deh/ Gladys to be of Chinese origin, she was accepted.

She suffered from internal injuries inflicted by the Japanese, which became more serious. Gladys was advised that her only chance of recovery would be in England. She did not want to return; she had no money for the fare. Although an American missionary was willing to help her, she did return in 1949, three years later. By then, her adopted children were making their way in the world. In England, Gladys received the treatment she needed. After recovery, she lectured and preached in churches, schools, and mission halls. She also helped Chinese students from Singapore and Hong Kong. In 1955, Gladys returned to Formosa (Taiwan) where she opened an orphanage. She died there in 1970, aged 68. Some still remember her as a diminutive lady with a resonant voice who expressed gratitude for the protection Chinese Nationalists had given her.

John Hill



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Across

- 1 He was replaced as king of Judah by his uncle Mattaniah (2 Kings 24:17) (10)
- 7 'Let us fix our eyes on Jesus... who for the joy set before him — the cross' (Hebrews 12:2) (7)
- 8 Relieved (5)
- 10 Impetuous (Acts 19:36) (4)
- 11 Surprised and alarmed (Luke 24:37) (8)
- 13 'It is for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for the rich to enter the kingdom of God' (Mark 10:25) (6)
- 15 Directions for the conduct of a church service (6)
- 17 One of the acts of the sinful nature (Galatians 5:19) (8)

OCTOBER CROSSWORD ANSWERS



18 and 20 Down 'She began to wet his — with her tears. Then she wiped them with her — ' (Luke 7:38) (4.4) 21 'We will all be changed, in a flash, in the twinkling of an —, — the last trumpet' (1 Corinthians 15:51–52) (3,2) 22 'But he replied, "Lord, I am — go with you to prison and to death" (Luke 22:33) (5,2) 23 Third person of the Trinity (2 Corinthians 13:14) (4,6)

Down

- 1 He betrayed Jesus (Matthew 27:3)
- 2 Paul's assurance to the Philippian jailer: 'Don't — yourself! We are all here!' (Acts 16:28) (4)
- 3 'Fear God and keep his commandments, for this — the whole — of man' (Ecclesiastes 12:13) (2,4)
- 4 The sort of giver God loves (2 Corinthians 9:7) (8)
- 5 Sun rail (anag.) (7)
- 6 Naboth, the ill-fated vineyard owner, was one (1 Kings 21:1) (10)
- 9 Paul said of young widows, 'When their sensual desires overcome their to Christ, they want to marry' (1 Timothy 5:11) (10)
- 12 This was how Joseph of Arimathea practised his discipleship 'because he feared the Jews' (John 19:38) (8)
- 14 Mop ruse (anag.) (7)
- 16 Foment (Philippians 1:17) (4,2)
- 19 Where Joseph and Mary escaped to with the baby Jesus (Matthew 2:14) (5)



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IS THERE A SPIRITUAL REVIVAL GOING ON AMONG OUR YOUNG PEOPLE?

A leading Roman Catholic professor of Pastoral Theology at the University of Vienna thinks that this may well be so. For the Revd Paul Zulehner says that while Church is still losing young people, it is also gaining them.

"We're clearly witnessing a protest against mainstream secularisation, as groups of youngsters yearn for respiritualisation or re-enchantment. Many are looking for meaning beyond material success, when such perceptions have become enfeebled in our pluralistic societies."

Professor Zulehner was speaking to the *Church Times* after the recent Roman Catholic Church's *Jubilee of Youth*, which attracted a million-strong gathering in Rome, led by Pope Leo XIV.

Meanwhile, in Britain, Youth for Christ, an international evangelical youth ministry, has reported that weekly church attendance by young people had doubled from four

LET HIM LEAD ME TO THE BANQUET HALL, AND LET HIS BANNER OVER ME IS LOVE.

Song of Songs 2:4

I like a good harvest festival. 'Come, Ye Thankful People, Come', 'For the Fruits of His Creation', 'Now Thank We All Our God' and my favourite, 'We Plough the Fields and Scatter', the last one is not everyone's favourite but I like it. It reminds me of school assembly and teacher who pointed out the words sound like ploughing fields and then running away. I can remember the fields near where I lived and seeing the tractor followed by flocks of birds, eager for food.

Harvest is about being thankful for God's provision and how the harvest, in this part of the world at least, never fails. No matter how dry or wet the growing seasons are, we always get a harvest.

I enjoy a good harvest lunch. We used to have really good ones in the parish, and it brought out people who were not regular church goers but occasional attenders, mainly when food was on the table. I like a buffet because you can choose what you want and how much of it, and if you are clever, you can get two helpings. My advice is let the polite people go first, as they eat little and then go for it when most people have had their fill. No! don't be greedy but do tuck in and make sure you help others.

to eight percent in five years. YFC said that half of young people were now declaring a belief in God, and 96 per cent express an openness to "supernatural experience".

The report also said that the number of younger people claiming to pray regularly had also increased sharply, although it is still small. 65 per cent said that they now viewed churches "positively", compared with just eight per cent in 2020 — defying "every prediction about declining religious engagement".

Professor Zulehner added that while many young people are sceptical about institutional Churches, they have found a "medium and language" through social media for sharing their religious interests.

He told Church Times: "Gospel influences are at work through Instagram, TikTok, and the networks today's youngsters rely on, which may ultimately prove as important in finding followers for Christ as the Church's leaders and traditions."

ANIMAL WELFARE SUNDAY – 5 OCTOBER

This year, Animal Welfare Sunday falls on Sunday 5 October, which is the nearest Sunday to St Francis' feast day on Saturday 4. It is a good opportunity to thank God for the animals, and to consider how we might help them.

Christians have been involved in animal welfare reform throughout history. For example, even the RSPCA – the first animal protection society, was founded by an Anglican priest – the Revd Arthur Broome. But many well-known Christians such as C S Lewis, John Wesley and William Wilberforce also spoke out against animal cruelty.

As the Psalmist says in Psalm 148, animals in their amazing variety of species were all created for the glory of God and to praise His name. They were not created for our exploitation and domination.

But sadly, Creation has been abused, and it continues to be abused today. The economics of providing us with low-cost chicken, pork, beef and milk can too often result in cruelty towards millions of animals.

These days, The Anglican Society for the Welfare of Animals works to raise awareness of animal welfare issues within the Anglican Church and the wider Christian community. If you want to help the welfare of animals in some way, please visit: www.aswa.org.uk





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DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

— DITTES FOR TO	OK DITTE	i E S
W 1 Prayer	Littleham	9 am
Quiet Prayer	Lympstone	11.30 am
Signing Babies	HT Hall	11.30 – 12.30
Th 2 Community Prayer Meeting	Lympstone	4 – 5 pm
F 3 Beacon School	Holy Trinity	9 – 9.30 am
Tick Tock	Lympstone	9 – 11 am
0 – 5's	HT Hall	10 – 11.30 am
Lympstone School	Lympstone	1.15 pm
Su 5 Harvest Lunch Harvest Lunch	Lympstone Holy Trinity	12 noon 12.30 – 3 pm
HYGGE Church	Holy Trinity	4 – 5.30 pm
M 6 Prayer Meeting	Coffee Bar	9 am
Rainbows	HT Hall	5.30 – 7 pm
Next Gen. Youth Group	Town	6 – 7.30 pm
T 7 0-5s	HT Hall	10 – 11.30 am
Good Afternoon Choir	HT Hall	12.30 - 2.30 pm
Kingdom Club	Lympstone	3.30 – 4.30 pm
Brownies	HT Hall	5.30 – 7.15 pm
Confirmation Preparation	Coffee Bar	6.30 – 9 pm
W 8 Quiet Prayer	Lympstone	11.30 am
Signing Babies	HT Hall	11.30 – 12.30
Staff working lunch	Holy Trinity	12 – 2 pm
Lympstone Singers Nicene Creed Course (1)	Lympstone Lympstone	4.30 – 6 pm 7 – 8.30 pm
Th 9 Thursday Group	HT Hall	10.30 am – 1 pm
Moor Park AGM	HT Hall	2 pm
Community Prayer Meeting	Lympstone	4 – 5 pm
F 10 Beacon School Harvest Festi	Holy Trinity	9 – 9.30 am
Tick Tock	Lympstone	9 – 11 am
0 – 5's	HT Hall	10 – 11.30 am
Lympstone School	Lympstone	1.15 pm
Blackmore Theatre Rehearsa	l HT Hall	7 – 9.30 pm
Sa 11 Youth Gathering Rediscover,		5.15 pm
M 13 Prayer Meeting	Coffee Bar	9 am
Unity Meeting	Coffee Bar	2 pm
Rainbows Football4All	HT Hall L'ham Green	5.30 – 7 pm 6 - 7 pm
T 14 0-5s	HT Hall	10 – 11.30 am
Good Afternoon Choir	HT Hall	12.30 – 2.30 pm
Pastoral Links meeting	HT Hall	2.30 pm
Kingdom Club	Lympstone	3.30 – 4.30 pm
Brownies	HT Hall	5.30 – 7.15 pm
L'stone Art Grp – Ray Balkwil	• •	7.30 – 9.30 pm
W 15 Signing Babies	HT Hall	11.30 – 12.30
Lympstone Singers	Lympstone	4.30 – 6.30 pm
Nicene Creed Course (2)	Lympstone	7 – 8.30 pm
Th 16 Julian Group	HT Lady Chap	pel 11 – 11.30 am
Mother's Union		2 – 4 pm 4 – 5 pm
Community Prayer Meeting F 17 Beacon School	Lympstone Holy Trinity	9 – 9.30 am
Tick Tock	Lympstone	9 – 9.30 am 9 – 11 am
0 – 5's	HT Hall	10 – 11.30 am
Lympstone School	Lympstone	1.15 pm
Sa 18 TARA AGM	HT Hall	10 am – 1 pm
Su 19 HYGGE Hangout	Holy Trinity	4 – 5 pm
M 20 Prayer Meeting	Coffee Bar	9 am
Unity Group	Coffee Bar	2 pm
Rainbows	HT Hall	5.30 – 7 pm
Next Gen. Youth Group	HT Den	6 – 7.30 pm
T 21 0-5s	HT Hall	10 – 11.30 am
Good Afternoon Choir	HT Hall	12.30 – 2.30 pm
Kingadana Olub		
Kingdom Club	Lympstone	3.30 – 4.30 pm
Kingdom Club Brownies		

TO HELP YOU PRAY IN OCTOBER				
W 1 Remigius, Bishop of Rheims, 533 Open Door, Exmouth Th 2 Peace in the Holy Land F 3 Delivery drivers Sa 4 Francis of Assisi, Friar, Deacon, 1226 Our Deanery				
Su 5 Harvest Devon Farmer M 6 William Tyndale, Martyr, 1226 Aylesbeare Deand T 7 Visitors to Dev W 8 Youth minis Th 9 Denys, Bishop of Paris, Martyr, c.250 Our Cura F 10 Paulinus, Bishop of York, 644 Care Home st S 11 Ethelburga, Abbess of Barking, 675 Care Home reside				
Su 12 20th Sunday after Trinity Wilfred of Ripon, Bishop, 709				
M 13 Edward the Confessor, King of England, 1066 T 14 Shift workers W 15 Teresa of Avila, 1582 The Anglican Church Th 16 Bishops of London and Worcester, 1555 Devon Air Ambulance F 17 Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch, c.107 Asylum seekers				
Sa 18 Luke the Evangelist Evangelists				
Su 19 21st Sunday after Trinity Henry Martyn, Missionary, 1812 M 20 Missionaries T 21 RE Teachers W 22 Exmouth Town Council Th 23 School Governors F 24 Hospital chaplains Sa 25 Crispin and Crispinian, Martyrs, c.287 MAF				
Su 26 Last Sunday after Trinity King Alfred the Great, 899 M 27 Bellringers T 28 Simon and Jude, Apostles				
Exmouth Fire and Rescue W 29 James Hannington, Bishop, Martyr, 1885 Paramedics Th 30 CofE Primary Schools F 31 Martin Luther, Reformer, 1546 Hygge Church				
CALENDAR CONTINUED				
W 22 Quiet Morning Signing Babies Lympstone Singers Lympstone Nicene Creed Course (3) Open Door Cheese & Wine The Ocean The 23 Community Prayer Meeting Tick Tock Tick Tock Uympstone Uympstone Uympstone The Ocean The				

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