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December 2018 and January 2019



Chinnor
Community
Church

Prayer

Smith Wigglesworth was once asked how he prayed, and he said, "I don't often pray longer than 20 minutes, but rarely does 20 minutes go by that I don't pray."

What Wigglesworth had come to understand is that prayer isn't about a measurement of minutes but a way of life. Prayer happens in the fullest activity of life as much as in the quiet times. It doesn't depend upon eyes being closed, hands being clasped, or heads being bowed. Prayer isn't contained in our preferred customs, but it is a vital part of our personal relationship with God. It's an intimate connection with our Heavenly Father who loves us, a privilege in which we can share life with the one who gave us life.

So, how should we pray?

Jesus taught his disciples to pray this way:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

(Matthew 6:9-13).

The prayer that Jesus taught includes six petitions. The first three concern God directly, they relate to his name, his kingdom and his will. The next three have to do with us - our daily food, our sins and our temptations. Be encouraged therefore to always pray with a first concern for who God is, for his kingdom and his will, because when we seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, he will supply all that we need.

The Bible tells us that we're to spend time alone with God in prayer and we're also to pray together with fellow believers. So, as we come together in prayer, be prepared to speak God's praise with thankfulness and if that doesn't come easily to you, let me encourage you to speak God's praise aloud when you're alone with him and you'll see how things change. Your heavenly Father isn't looking for theological exposition, or eloquent speeches, he's looking out for you. You're his child, you're his concern and he wants to hear your voice.

It's evident that the early church understood the power of corporate prayer because the Book of Acts tells us that: "They all met together and were

constantly united in prayer' (Acts 1:14). 'They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer' (Acts 2:42), and, 'They raised their voices together in prayer to God' (Acts 4:24).

Be an active part of the prayer life of Chinnor Community Church. We'd love to see you at any of our regular prayer gatherings, and who knows what God might do when we come together as one in prayer?

Prayer for Israel is a day-time prayer gathering in which we pray for the peace of Jerusalem with a concern for God's people Israel.

The Bridge is an evening prayer gathering in which we simply come together recognising that we're in God's presence and we have his Word and Spirit to lead us.

There's also prayer in CCC Small Groups, 'The Journey', 'Food for Thought' and 'The Grace Course'. We have intercessors praying here at CCC, friends praying together, and you can make your prayer requests known through the CCC Prayer Chain, so that others can pray with you.

I'll be praying for you. I'll be praying that Jesus will be first in all that you are and all that you do.

I'll be praying for your marriage, your family, your loved ones and friends.

I'll be praying for the work that God has prepared for you to do, and for those whom God has called you to work together with.

Please pray for Cath and me in these things also and together we'll make a difference for God's glory.

With Christian love

Pete

A Cautionary Note

Although the Bible tells us that God can speak to us through dreams and visions, that's not the same as saying that all our dreams, visions or even our thoughts are from God. The Bible is the inspired Word of God, the revealed will of God, the infallible, all sufficient rule for faith and practice because all Scripture is God-breathed, useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16).

Think upon God's word therefore as you pray and take every thought captive and make it obedient to Christ (2 Corinthians 10:5).



VIOLENT CLASHES IN NIGERIA LEADING TO A HUMANITARIAN CRISIS

Nigerian authorities are trying to restore calm in the northern state of Kaduna after fighting between communities. It's reported 55 people have been killed in the last few weeks in the Kasuwan Magani area. So far in 2018, hundreds of people have been killed in outbreaks of communal violence across Nigeria. It means security is now a key campaign issue ahead of the February 2019 general election. The unrest is one of the main causes of a developing humanitarian crisis in Nigeria that has forced many people from their homes.

Around 1.7 million people live in camps for internally displaced people (IDPs).

An estimated 7.7 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance.

In seven years of conflict, more than 20,000 people have been killed in Boko Haram-related incidents.

Building peace

Several Tearfund partners are working to bring peace in Nigeria. These include SUWA, CRCN, ECWA-POD, and CCDP. Their peacebuilding initiatives help Christians, Muslims and traditional worshippers to work together and live peacefully. With around 190 million people, Nigeria is Africa's most populous nation. It's split almost equally between Christians and Muslims, with around 250 different ethnic groups living side-by-side, in the most part peacefully. Paul Mershak, Tearfund's Country Representative for Nigeria, says: 'If we are to tackle the violence then peacebuilding focusing on interfaith community dialogue is vital.' Please continue to pray for this nation and its people.

PRAYER FOCUS

- Pray for God to comfort those who have lost loved ones and homes in the violence. May there be peace in Nigeria. Without peace it's harder to tackle the growing humanitarian crisis.
- Ask God to encourage and equip Tearfund's staff and partners as they provide urgent aid and implement longer-term peace-building work.
- Thank God for those communities who have already learned to put their differences aside and live in peace side-by-side. May their example shine through.

THE ELEPHANT AND THE MOSQUITO

A reflection by Tearfund's Dan Preston, one of the organisers of The Justice Conference.

I'd never heard a positive word about them before, but recently I joined with 500 others as we shared some mutual appreciation for the much maligned mosquito. I was at the first ever Justice Conference in the UK. Hosted by Tearfund, it was two days spent exploring the theology of justice, hearing from people on the frontline of

various ministries and charity work, and sharing inspiration, ideas and encouragement.

Celia Apeageyi-Collins shared something in her talk that became my key takeaway from the event. ‘You describe the elephant by its size, but the mosquito by its impact,’ she said. ‘Even the smallest thing has an impact.’

We know the mosquito’s impact is a negative one – at best an inconvenient buzz, at worst magnifying the spread of disease. But what struck me is how we’re often quick to dismiss the contributions we could or do make, as insignificant.

We all have a part to play

It can feel like any impact we have is small, but even small actions have the potential to make a difference in the lives of others. At Tearfund, we’re privileged to see this first hand. We see it when one small petition card is the tipping point for governmental change, and when a short, faithful prayer makes all the difference. We see it when a supporter runs a sponsored event that raises crucial funds. We see the power of seemingly small things in the communities we work with around the world, too: that one new farming technique that doubles a harvest; that act of kindness and inclusion that restores someone’s hope and confidence.

I left The Justice Conference thinking, ‘How can I use the power of small actions to change the world?’ Sometimes, we feel as small as a mosquito, not as big as an elephant, and that’s OK. God calls us to use what we have to make a difference – no matter how small it seems.

PLEASE PRAY

Father, we praise you for the incredible ways that you take our small actions and turn them into lasting change for your glory. Thank you for using us to help build your kingdom. Please open our eyes to opportunities and ways that we can make a difference. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

LACK OF TOILETS IS OUT OF ORDER

Over two billion people around the world lack access to a safe, clean toilet of their own. It’s bad news for every one of those people. However it has the greatest impact on the 1.25 billion women and girls. To mark World Toilet Day (19 November), here are two short stories of how life is shaped for women by access to (or lack of) a simple latrine.

Dreaming of different

In Bridget’s village in Rukungiri, Uganda, education is highly prized. ‘When I finish school, I want to become a nurse,’ says Bridget aged 14. ‘I need to stay healthy.’ Until recently, teenage girls watched their ambitions wither when they started their period. Old toilets at the local primary school were virtually unusable, so teenage girls missed class for a week each month – many left school altogether. Early marriage was a more realistic prospect than a medical career. ‘If we felt sick, we’d miss class and that would affect our performance in exams,’ says Bridget. Bridget’s prospects were transformed by a new toilet block with girls’ changing rooms built by a Tearfund partner. Within three months, 65 girls re-enrolled in class.

A flush of excitement

Without a toilet, Purna from Sikre in Nepal almost died of diarrhoea. It took a day to reach hospital: her son, Bishwo, carried her on his back. ‘The doctor told us if we’d waited, we’d have lost our mother,’ he says. When he attended Tearfund partner’s sanitation workshops, Bishwo realised his latrine was contaminating a stream used for drinking water. He used savings and sold two goats to pay for a new, non-polluting toilet – and invited neighbours to his Toilet Open Day. He told them they should build loos too and thankfully many more in his village have.

PLEASE PRAY

- Pray for women and girls like Bridget and Sikre who are suffering from lack of a safe toilet and adequate sanitation.
- At current rates of progress, the world will not reach its goal to ‘ensure access to clean water sources and sanitation for all by 2030’ (as stated in the sixth Sustainable Development Goal). Pray for renewed efforts by world leaders to meet this goal.
- To mark World Toilet Day, (Monday 19 November) Toilet Twinning invited women and girls to join their Big Squat on the steps of St Paul’s Cathedral – in solidarity with the 1 billion women and girls worldwide who still don’t have a safe, proper toilet.

WHEN HEAVEN MEETS EARTH

Up until two years ago, every single day was a new battle for Patience and her family in Alwego, Tanzania. But today, things couldn’t be more different. Here is her amazing story.

When heaven is the only hope

Patience and Isaac got married at 18. Neither of them had any way of making a living, and life was hard from day one. They were struggling to keep themselves and their children alive. ‘I had lost all hope,’ Patience remembers. ‘I no longer dreamed, no longer visualised anything better. I had accepted that this was going to be my life situation until my last day on earth.’

In search of solace, Patience and Isaac started to go to church. Life was so difficult, they believed heaven was the only thing they had to look forward to. But things took an unexpected turn, thanks to a new thing happening at church.

A new vision

Supported by Tearfund partner AICT, Alwego Church had started a process called Church and Community Transformation (CCT). This is a unique approach to tackling poverty, where people are empowered to grow in the skills and confidence to build their own solutions to lifelong problems. For Patience and Isaac, it was a revelation. ‘I had never associated Christianity with physical wellbeing,’ says Patience. ‘We were so amazed when the CCT facilitators talked about God’s vision for his people while on earth. We were trained on how to utilise local resources to transform our own lives, through the potential that God has put in everyone that he created’.

First, Patience joined a self-help group, where people saved small amounts of money. She'd received agricultural training at church, so Patience took a small loan through the group to grow vegetables to eat and sell – already a huge step forward. Another thing the couple learnt through CCT was the value of time, and using it well. They put their heads together, and decided to farm in the mornings and use their afternoons to launch a new business.

Strength to strength

The couple started to make and sell soup and donuts. 'It was this business that blew my mind!' says Patience. 'I am among the few self-employed people in my village. I no longer call myself poor. Actually, my average monthly income is £172, which is absolutely unbelievable to me and my husband.' The new restaurant is so busy, Patience now employs one of her neighbours to work there. The transformation just keeps on growing and spreading. There are too many changes to mention here.

'CCT has not only brought physical transformation in my family life, but has also significantly enhanced our spiritual wellbeing,' says Patience. 'We are now a happy and flourishing family. 'I have realised there is no one in this world who is born to be poor, but that poverty is a state of mind caused by lack of knowledge, and therefore it's never too late for anyone to realise his or her dreams.'

LET'S PRAY:

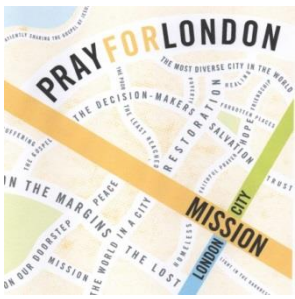
Dear God,

We praise you for this amazing change in the lives of Patience and her family. Thank you for creating all people with the potential to do great things in and through their lives, and the lives of others. We celebrate your church, through which your love and transformation can flow; and we pray for all those around the world still longing for the opportunity to lift themselves out of poverty. In your name we pray, amen.

Powerful, permanent change like this can only happen with the regular support of people like you – if you give already, thank you. If you don't, and you feel led, please give regularly to make more stories like this possible. Every pound makes a difference. Thank you for all you do.

John Gravett

Tearfund Representative



London City Mission

The London City Mission suggests two books that help get you get started, when challenged to respond to common answers and objections. Whilst sharing Jesus with people from Muslim communities. How about a Christmas gift to someone? Pam is always available to get books through the Book Stall.

Dear Abdullah by Rob Scott, published by IVP.

About this first book

Working daily with Muslims in central London, Rob Scott has discovered that many have a hunger for debate and openness to talking about matters of faith. In this thoughtful and respectful book, he explores good answers to common questions his Muslim friends have discussed with him over the years. He equips ordinary Christians to tackle conversations about faith with their Muslim friends, with confidence and competence.

Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus by Nabeel Qureshi

About this second book

A NYT Bestseller, Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus by former Muslim Nabeel Qureshi provides an intimate window into American Muslim life, describing how a passionate pursuit of Islam led him to Christ. He describes his dramatic journey from Islam to Christianity, complete with friendships, investigations, and supernatural dreams along the way. Engaging and thought-provoking, Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus tells a powerful story of the clash between Islam and Christianity in one man's heart--and of the peace he eventually found in Jesus.

LCM @ CCC & Stuart Currie

The last London City missionary to visit CCC was Stuart Currie and he introduced us to an evangelistic outlook and outreach possibility, through paintings located, in London Galleries and Museums. This is only part of his work with the LCM. Stuart Currie works alongside the pastor of Bow Baptist Church in Tower Hamlets. In this part of London, only 27% of people report to be Christian. This is the lowest figure for any local authority in England and Wales. Whilst undertaking mentoring, leading

Bible study groups and working in a homeless shelter, an unusual aspect of his Christian outreach is on Tuesdays. He and a friend go litter picking on the river path and, during this time, he often encounters appreciative passers-by. Conversations are shared with various types of people walking along the towpath - some spiritual and some church based and some secular, so we need to pray that Stuart will be able to use this environmental activity to further Gods kingdom in his work within the LCM.

Peter Brown

London is a unique mission field. It is a city of great need and of enormous gospel opportunity.

Please join us as we pray for greater gospel impact in this city.

Please pray:

- That as we work with the **least reached** in London, we would have increasing opportunities to **share the gospel** with those who are lonely, marginalised and living far from home.
- That God would give us **grace and wisdom** to adjust to new ways of working. Pray he will guide and bless us in the months ahead.
- We would make the very **best use of the resources**, skills and experience God has given us for mission in London.
- That our Mission team would grow in their own personal **relationships with God**. Pray God would equip and strengthen them for the task he has called them to.
- **We would** recruit more missionaries so that we can reach more of London's hardest to reach communities.
- For more **volunteers and ministry trainees** to work with us and for the -mobilisation of many Christians in London to get involved in evangelism and gospel work.
- For our **relationships with churches** in London, that we would be a blessing to them and support them through partnership and collaboration in evangelism and discipleship.

***“Pray without
ceasing.”***

1 Thessalonians 5:17



Through December...

- Day 01 Pray for our Fellowship
- Day 02 Pray for Pete and Cath, Bruce and Gisela
- Day 03 Pray for our Church Leadership Team
- Day 04 Pray for our Worship Group
- Day 05 Pray for our Youth Worker
- Day 06 Pray for all the adults in our congregation
- Day 07 Pray for all the children and youth in our congregation
- Day 08 Pray for all the senior members of our congregation
- Day 09 Pray for the ‘Not yet saved’ among us
- Day 10 Pray for the preachers and teachers in our church
- Day 11 Pray for our women’s ministry
- Day 12 Pray for our men’s ministry
- Day 13 Pray for the behind the scenes workers
- Day 14 Pray for our children’s’ groups
- Day 15 Pray for our prayer focus in our church
- Day 16 Pray for our Family Workers
- Day 17 Pray for a willingness to be led by the Spirit
- Day 18 Pray for the use of spiritual gifts within our church
- Day 19 Pray that we will love one another as a body
- Day 20 Pray for our church finances
- Day 21 Pray for our outreach ministry
- Day 22 Pray for the single parents in our church
- Day 23 Pray for those who are hurting
- Day 24 Pray for those who struggle with sin issues
- Day 25 Pray that we will see things as God sees them
- Day 26 Pray for God to add to our number through new converts
- Day 27 Pray for our community
- Day 28 Pray for protection from the evil one
- Day 29 Pray for our Government
- Day 30 Pray for the other churches in Chinnor
- Day 31 Pray for revival in Chinnor



This month's guide to encourage our partnership in prayer

Through January...

On a **SUNDAY** pray for:

- The people who live near the church
- The High Street, The Avenue, Grafton Orchard, Doveleat, etc
- Those of the fellowship living there and their neighbours

On a **MONDAY** pray for:

- The Glynswood Estate
- Those of the fellowship living there and their neighbours

On a **TUESDAY** pray for:

- The Mill Lane and Cherry Tree Estates
- Those of the fellowship living there and their neighbours

On a **WEDNESDAY** pray for:

- Elderdene, Lower Road, Lower Icknield Way etc
- Those of the fellowship living there and their neighbours

On a **THURSDAY** pray for:

- Rectory Meadow area, Golden Hills etc.
- The Kiln Lakes Estate
- Those of the fellowship living there and their neighbours

On a **FRIDAY** pray for:

- Station Road, Duck Square, Kiln Lakes, The New Roads
- Those of the fellowship living there and their neighbours
- The doctors surgeries and schools
- The other churches and their leadership teams

On a **SATURDAY** pray for:

- The villages and towns around us
- Those of the fellowship living there and their neighbours

Follow the Star

On Saturday 15th December, Chinnor Community Church (CCC) will enact a roaming Carol Service - '**Star Walk**'. This event is suitable for all the family.

Hot chocolate (optional) at 5.15 pm will be provided at the Sports Pavilion in readiness for the start of the first 'scene' of the 'Star Walk' (Carnival) at the shelter behind the Pavilion at 5.30 pm. Along the way various mini pop-up scenes can be experienced and enjoyed depicting the Christmas Story. The route of the procession will follow up Station Road, along Church Road, down the High Street until it finally comes to rest at 'The Stable' – Chinnor Community Church. Arriving at approximately 6.30 pm.

Join in with the Wise Men as they search for the Baby Jesus, see the reaction of Herod to the news of this new King, watch the shepherds on the hillside as the angel tells of this birth. A Star will light the way and the manger will be carried to its resting place in the stable. Lanterns will be available to carry, but torches are also recommended.

The final scene will be played out in the garden of Chinnor Community Church where those not wishing to walk can join in these proceedings.

To rest our weary feet from the walk, inside the 'Stable' there will be the opportunity to watch the film 'It's a Boy' and to sing carols rejoicing at the birth of Jesus. Mulled wine and mince pies will end the evening.





The Wise Men Followed the Star

Of Astrologers, Musicians, and Bungling Sorcerers

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, 'Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.' Matthew 2:1-2

The 12th day of Christmas falls on 6 January this year. In the Christian calendar the day is known as Epiphany, marking the visit to the young Jesus by... well, by whom?

We sometimes sing 'We three *kings* of Orient are'. But Matthew calls them 'Magi', not kings. Magi were a number of things, but they were certainly *not* kings. Nor, probably, should we think of them as 'wise men'.

By the first century, the term 'Magi' referred to astronomers, fortune-tellers, or star-gazers. So, think 'magicians'. Think horoscope fanatics. Think those who claim to tell the future by reading stars, tea leaves, and chicken gizzards. In the Bible, think of the magicians in Egypt at the time of Moses, or the interpreters of dreams in the book of Daniel, or Simon the sorcerer in Acts 8.

So, for an early reader of Matthew's gospel, the Magi aren't just Gentiles (significant though that is); they represent the height of Gentile idolatry and religious wizardry. But it's these star-gazing, horoscope-writing, would-be magicians who are the heroes in the story. They shouldn't be there. They don't worship the right God or adhere to the right religion or belong to the right race. And yet they are there.

It's possible, then (according to Mark Allan Powell, *Chasing the Eastern Star*, Westminster John Knox, 2001) that we should see the Magi as bungling astrologers or sorcerers – more like the Three Stooges than the Three Wise Men! They go to the wrong place. They speak to the wrong person. When they give their gifts, it's gold, frankincense and myrrh, which were elements used in their magic. And yet, by a mysterious combination of God's loving grace and their faithful seeking, they are there – as models of seeking Jesus, believing in Jesus, and worshipping Jesus with what they have. God used what they knew – the stars – and gave them what they didn't know – the Scriptures – to bring them to Jesus.

The story of the Magi shows us that God revealed the truth about Jesus to a bunch of pagan fools while those who were clever enough to work it out for themselves missed out. Their story reminds us that God shows his strength in our weakness, his glory in our humility, his wisdom in our folly – to make it clear that everything comes from him and not from ourselves.

Let's celebrate that this New Year.

Antony Billington, LICC

A Christmas Poem

...and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. (Matthew 2:9–10)

We were not three.
And not kings.
At least not when we arrived.
And really more curious than wise,
Craning for truth in starlit skies.
But at least looking,
At least checking
What we thought we knew:
A king born for the Jews.

No, we were not wise.
More stupid than wise,
Asking another king
To point us to a rival's cradle.
But at least asking,
And finding truth in the old scroll,
Truth a murderer would not recognise,
But wary to ply us with winsome lies
And play a deferential role.

No, we were not so wise.
More blind than wise,
Searching for a king
For someone else.
But at least searching,
And finding, in someone else's king,
Our end, the end of lifeless ways,
The rule for all our days.

Later they fancied us kings.
In that, there was only this truth:
He who would wear a crown
Must first bow low,
Must first bow down.

Mark Greene, LICC

Keep this bell ringing ...

THE BELL

I KNOW WHO I AM

I am God's child (John 1:12)

I am Christ's friend (John 15:15)

I am united with the Lord (1 Cor 6:17)

I am bought with a price (1 Cor 6:19-20)

I am a saint (set apart for God). (Eph 1:1)

I am a personal witness of Christ. (Acts 1:8)

I am the salt & light of the earth (Matt 5:13-14)

I am a member of the body of Christ (1 Cor 12:27)

I am free forever from condemnation (Rom. 8:1-2)

I am a citizen of Heaven. I am significant (Phil 3:20)

I am free from any charge against me (Rom. 8:31-34)

I am a minister of reconciliation for God (2 Cor 5:17-21)

I have access to God through the Holy Spirit (Eph. 2:18)

I am seated with Christ in the heavenly realms (Eph. 2:6)

I cannot be separated from the love of God (Rom. 8:35-39)

I am established, anointed, sealed by God (2 Cor. 1:21-22)

I am assured all things work together for good (Rom. 8:28)

I have been chosen and appointed to bear fruit (John 15:16)

I may approach God with freedom and confidence (Eph. 3:12)

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me (Phil 4:13)

I am the branch of the true vine, a channel of his life (John 15:1-5)

I am God's temple (1 Cor. 3: 16) I am complete in Christ (Col. 2:10)

I am hidden with Christ in God (Col 3:3) I have been justified (Rom. 5:1)

I am God's co-worker (1 Cor. 3:9; 2 Cor. 6:1) I am God's workmanship (Eph 2:10)

I am confident that the good works God has begun in me will be perfected (Phil 1:5)

I have been redeemed and forgiven (Col 1:14) And adopted as God's child (Eph 1:5)

I belong to God

Do you know

Who you are?

STOP PRESS:

ILLEGAL ALIEN HAS ILLEGITIMATE BIRTH - BABY EXPECTED TO BE CHARGED WITH TREASON

BETHLEHEM -- It was rumored today that an unmarried couple from Nazareth stopped for the use of a manger owned by Alfredo Pinchi, a notorious local slumlord, and a baby was born.

"There was no running water, and the place was filled with straw," commented local public health authorities. "We even found a donkey inside."

"The mother gave birth under extremely questionable circumstances," offered Pontius Pilate, Judean candidate for District Attorney. "She claims to have been a virgin."

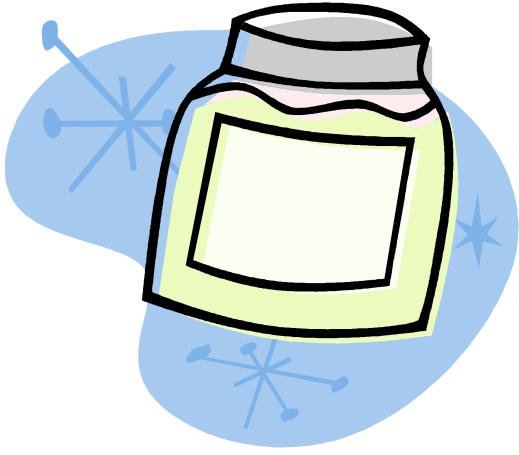
Unconfirmed reports indicate that Roman authorities are investigating the baby on charges of sedition and treason. "There are a bunch of people running around alleging that the baby is the son of God," explained Pilate, "and that he will have some radical ideas about religion in the future."

Three Kings from the Orient were caught on the outskirts of Bethlehem by the Roman Border Patrol carrying illegal contraband. "We caught them red-handed with frankincense and myrrh," explained an official with the Border Patrol. "And they didn't have any papers." The Kings were promptly arrested and deported to Syria.

At virtually the same time as the baby was born, a bright star was sighted over Bethlehem. "This is an omen that things are about to radically change in the Empire due to global warming," the Director of the Environmental Protection Agency commented.

Watch out for further updates

How full?



A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him. When the class began wordlessly he picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar, and proceeded to fill it with golf balls. He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.

The professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.

The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded with a unanimous – ‘yes’.

The professor then produced two cups of coffee from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed.

Now, said the professor, as the laughter subsided. "I want you to recognise that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are the important things – God, your family, your children, your health and your favourite passions - things that, if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full.

The pebbles are the other things that matter like your job, your house and your car.

The sand is everything else - the small stuff. "If you put the sand in the jar first" he continued, "there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important to you.

Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Read your Bible, pray and trust God. Play with your children. Take time to get medical checkups. Take your wife out to dinner. Play another 18 holes of

golf. There will always be time to clean the house and mow the lawn. Take care of the golf balls first, the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand."

One of the students raised her hand and enquired what the coffee represented. The professor smiled. "I'm glad you asked. It just goes to show that, no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of cups of coffee with a friend!"

Author unknown

Make room for Jesus in your jar of life this Christmas.



Coffee Pot

CCC Coffee Pot Goes Pointless

It seems a long time since Jacqui was leading the mornings meeting, but after a lengthy wait, she was here to bring us another Pointless morning. [Who said that?]. This has become an annual event, and one that people enjoy. The usual banter, coffee and biscuits, caused the sound level to rise, but as soon as Jacqui took to the floor, an expectant silence spread over the crowd in the room.

There was only time for two sets of Pointless answers to be completed; both of two and a half minutes duration, but the answers took ages. The diversity of the answers was amazing. Lots of 'O, yes'; 'Ah'; 'You said that!'; 'Why didn't you write that down when I told you'; 'No supper for you tonight' were just a few of the comments when the answers were discussed. After a roll of the dice, Jacqui revealed that the first letter for our Pointless session was G. An item in this room, starting with the letter G, resulted in Gold Ring being pointless, and considering how many members in the room had a Gold Ring on, Gold Ring proved to be a good answer. For a bird, 'Grebe' was a good choice, and, 'something you plug in' gave Generator zero points. Gobstopper, Golf, Goa, Gertrude and Giraffe all scored, but the highest score was for a character in the Old Testament, namely Gideon.

Our second letter was H.

Word must have got around, for we were joined by a late, but happy couple that are new to the village. [P & C] Onwards then, and a fruit, starting with the letter H, proved to be controversial and eventually 'Half an orange' was disqualified, as was a breakfast food starting with the letter H, namely 'Half an orange' was again disqualified. Same person, same answer, same disqualification but at least a point for trying. Hong Kong and Hiroshima; Halibut and Hula Hoop and Hole proved to be pointless. Hemlock was also a good answer for H, but was this for 'A Flower' or 'A Breakfast Food?' 'Herod' was the most popular answer for a person in the New Testament, but 'Hezekiah' strengthened the score on one answer sheet, giving them two points.

Even though Jacqui only gave us a short time to write down our answers, discussing them was another matter as we nearly ran out of time. Richard and Diane came out on top, or the bottom, depending how you look at the score. Another happy morning that enabled us to forget the Brexit thingy for a short time.

Jacqui closed with a soft and gentle reading that brought us to our meetings end by reminding us of the fruits of the Spirit are for those that love and serve GOD. In the book of Galatians it says, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,

patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

So thanks, Jacqui, and we look forward to the next time.

CCC Coffee Pot Goes Geography!

We continue exploring and enjoying new experiences, including the biscuits and coffee. This morning our activity was provided by Joyce, who, because of her caravanning expertise, presented us with a quiz on countries. Because of her country of origin many expected to get the first question correct, but it was not so. The secret for the morning was to read the question and don't jump to conclusions. A famous dance was the Tango, from Argentina, and not the Scottish Reel, from Scotland, and the Lambeth Waltz did not stand a chance. The world's major producer of Chocolate is NOT Switzerland, but Belgium. Another point lost. Joyce certainly knows how to pick her questions. So who could go wrong by choosing the USA as the country whose national sport is the Rodeo. [!Read the question...the National Sport and not one of the national sports.] Chile's National Sport is the Rodeo, so there. Question eight asked 'I have a famous wall' obviously this was China. Hadrian's Wall, in Scotland was not even considered, as, for one thing, it is in England. Around 11% of this country is covered in glacial ice proved to be Iceland, not Canada or even Greenland. 36 the maximum marks available. There was a whole group that scored for second place, but it was Pam and Angela who knew their way around, so well done. Also to Joyce for a good, fun morning. Did I do geography at school? I must have forgotten most of it! [Or didn't take any notice.]

Our Samaritans' Purse Shoe Box Appeal morning raised £110.20, which was pretty good for the number of members present.

Pam D gave us a rundown on some current events with regard to the result of youngsters who receive these shoe boxes that are given with no strings attached. Let me assure you that the boxes are given out where need is perceived, irrespective of colour, creed or country. Pam is an excellent teller of the truth and there were a few damp eyes and thankful hearts in the meeting, the mission of the Samaritans' Purse Shoe Box is to show God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the good news of Jesus Christ.....with no strings attached.....

CCC Coffee Pot RCIFJ*

Kathleen informed us that, after coffee and biscuits, this morning's quiz would lead us into the [early] Christmas season. She also informed us that the questions would be easy. This brought a general moan all round. What was our enjoyment going to be? From a list of thirty sets of initials, all we had to do was to identify how many Christmas Carols and Songs we could recognise. The same also

appears on Pointless occasionally. They are easy as well, especially when the solutions are revealed. So it is with my team. Immediately we looked for AIAM [Away in a manger]. That would be a good start, but guess what? It was not on the list. Then there was HTLBTSCF. Nobody, absolutely nobody, got that one. DTHWBOH turned up, so we were able to Deck the Halls with Boughs of Holly and also we could SATWS [See Amid the Winters Snow] We missed Margaret S this morning but Barbara M made up for that. It was a shame that my hearing aid battery had just failed so I missed most of her answers.

The shepherds made an appearance Whilst Watching Their Flocks By Night and Good Christian Men were Rejoicing, Once they were In David's Royal City because Mary's Boy Child Was Born. It Came Upon A Midnight Clear so Jesus brought Joy To The World.

The secular world was also represented with ISMKSC [I saw mummy kissing Santa Clause] and IDOAWC [I'm dreaming of a white Christmas.] Rudolph also put in his traditional appearance with RTRNR and The Red famous Nose Rain-dear! HTLBTSCF - this was the last set of initials that meant that no-one was able to get maximum marks, as no one knew what they stood for. It transpired that it had something to do with a little boy that Santa forgot, but it was from a song too far back in time for most of us to remember. Kathleen judged Angela and Joyce to be the winners and for the rest of us to be pretty good at being well up on our Christmas Carols and Songs. So thanks to Kathleen for her efforts 'initially!'

RCIFJ* gives us Remember Christmas Is for Jesus, he is the Star.

CCC Coffee Pot

Chinnor Community Church Coffee Pot brings to you the Christmas Nativity of Jesus at the Village Centre on Thursday 13th December, from 10.30 in the Chilton Room. Entitled "Who's The Star", the morning also includes a traditional carol sing along, plus a full cast of volunteers.

CCC Coffee Pot

Our programme for 2019 is available at the church entrance information table.

CCC Coffee Pot

January 24th 2019 is a morning not to be missed. At 10.30 in the Village Centre, there will be a 'HOT SEAT' event in the Chiltern Room.

Who will it be?

Well, come along and see.

At least it won't be me.

Says oldie pcb.

CCC Coffee Pot wishes all our readers a Joyous Noël.

Peter Brown



I'm writing this on Sunday evening November 18th. This morning I stood in Church and thanked everyone for all the support given in so many different ways at our Coffee morning a week ago. This was held to raise the money necessary for the shoeboxes to be transported and delivered into the hands of the waiting children! After paying expenses I'm delighted to say we raised £1068.08 which, together with money already donated during the year, means we will not only be able to cover the transport costs but also pay for several children to go on the Greatest Journey course.

God really blessed that event. There were so many things going on in and around the village that day and so many difficulties arose leading up to that morning but in fact we had more visitors than on any previous coffee morning! The great thing was that so many folk who expressed how friendly and welcoming the atmosphere was and thanked us for not only caring about but also doing what we could to help some of the world's needy children.

What a wonderful and faithful Saviour we have! Next week I'll be telling everyone how many boxes we are responsible for sending this year. I'm sure that in the weeks and months to come we'll hear just how many of those boxes have been like little seeds that in the plan and care of the Master have blossomed into a harvest for His service.

There is no Connect in January so I'm going to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and blessed Christmas, to thank you all on behalf of Samaritan's Purse for all you've done for Operation Christmas Child during 2018, and - oh yes to say during January we'll be collecting pencils and Biro's!!!

God Bless you all,
Lots of love,

Pam Dunn x.

GUARD YOUR HEART

*“Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.”
Proverbs 4:23, NIV*

A wellspring is the place where something important comes from. It is the source of a stream and then a river. It's where things begin. And our Scripture for today tells us that it is the centre of our being, the wellspring of life.

The heart, not our physical blood-pump, but the very core of our being, is, therefore, absolutely central to who we are as a person. It's where our thoughts, feelings and emotions come together and express themselves and influence the will choices that we make. It is, therefore, of critical importance. No wonder we are told here to guard our heart. For if we don't we will be vulnerable to influences from every possible direction and to the temptations which the enemy may put before us.

Hebrews 4:12 tells us that it is the thoughts and the attitudes of our heart that are judged by the living and active Word of God, described here as being sharper than any double-edged sword. It's as if the Word of God becomes the straight edge, or plumb line, against which the choices we make are measured. For when the motives of our heart are out of tune with God, we are in danger of heading for trouble.

Paul warns us to be very careful what we think about. He encourages us *“to take captive every thought and make it obedient to Christ”* (2 Corinthians 10:5). For the ungodly things we dwell on in our minds penetrate the defences of our heart and we can then become vulnerable to putting those thoughts into action – and so a cycle of ungodly thinking motivates the heart and leads us into ungodly actions.

These actions then, in turn, store up ungodly memories for the mind to dwell on, thus feeding a cycle which can dominate and control and become the root of addictions and addictive behaviour. This is serious stuff!

How precious it is when a child comes to faith in Jesus when they are young, before their mind and their heart have been challenged by the degrading standards that are prevalent in the moral behaviour of the

adult world. The sooner their heart is turned towards the Lord, the easier it will be as they grow and mature to maintain a pure heart at the centre of their lives.

Under the deceptive guise of making sure that a child's human right to choose for themselves, when an adult, are protected, society is trying to remove every Christian influence that there is in our educational systems and undermine the influence of Sunday Schools which, sadly, are very much in the decline. Christian foster parents, even, are being told not to share their beliefs with the children in their care.

But all of this is simply a strategy of the enemy to try and stop children discovering the truth about Jesus before their hearts would be affected by the pressures of the world. Samuel and Jeremiah are just two of the Bible's key players who recognised how precious it was that they were called when they were young.

Christian parents and grandparents have an enormous privilege and responsibility to gently lead the children in the family to faith in Jesus when they are young. How I thank God that at the age of nine I knelt at my bedside with my father and invited Jesus into my heart. I have never forgotten that most important moment in the whole of my life.

Satan would want our heart to be polluted by ungodly desires. But Paul in his letter to the Philippians urged believers to counter the enemy's inroads by thinking on "*whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely and whatever is admirable*" (Philippians 4:8). By so doing, Paul was giving very practical advice on how to guard our hearts as we are urged to do by today's Scripture.

***Prayer:** Thank You, Jesus, that with You as the Lord of my life, I can keep my heart pure. Help me to resist the temptations of the enemy and guard my heart, so that Satan is not able to blow my life off course and rob me of my destiny in God. In Jesus' Name, Amen.*

*Peter Horrobin
Ellel Ministries*

Since early civilizations in Babylon started to make promises to their gods at the beginning of a year, people around the world have made New Year's Resolutions. Christians have often spent New Year in Vigil's preparing for the dawning of a new year and praying for God's blessing for the 12 months ahead.

I wonder if you have any for 2019?

Last year the most popular resolutions were things like losing weight, spending less money, quitting smoking or enjoying life to the full. These all sound like good things to do, but Resolutions ... isn't that a bit out of date? You might be forgiven for thinking this is just a quirky tradition but apparently about 40% of American adults made New Year's commitments last year.

But whereas this sort of commitment has remained popular, a study for the University of Bristol in the UK has concluded 88% of people who set resolutions fail in them, even though 52% thought they'd be highly likely to achieve them. So is there a point?

I've always appreciated the opportunity a New Year brings of fresh starts and the chance for a clean slate - something which fits very well with the message of Jesus in the gospels - we can all start again (John 3:5-8).

As we approach New Year here's five ideas you could have a go at:

- Why not find half an hour to pray either before or after the clock strikes midnight. Like a candle and reflect on the year that's past and the year to come. Ask God to bless you.
- As the clock strikes Midnight why not slip away from the crowd for a minute and pray a simple pray in your head or quietly out loud. Early Christians used a word 'Maranatha' which is an Aramaic word meaning "Come, Lord". Have it in your head and thoughts as you celebrate the New Year that Jesus would come and fill your life and the world around you in 2019.
- What about trying New Year's prayers rather than resolutions. Could you have a consistent daily prayer for the year, which you can pray until it's answered. God would you help me to pray each day? God would you help me to be kind to other people?
- Organise a New Year's Day meal with friends to discuss their dreams for the year ahead and pray together.

Make some simple cards or postcards with a blessing or prayer for your neighbours for 2019 and post it through their doors before they wake on New Year's Day.

Whatever and however you plan to mark this new start in 2019, may God bless each of you in this coming year.

Hands For Prayer



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Sunday Services

Café Church 9.00am - 9.45am
Morning Service 10.45am to 12.15pm

Chinnor Community Church
High Street, Chinnor, Oxon OX39 4DH

Rainbow Tots

Tuesdays (Term Time)

9am at CCC

FN@6 and 7

Dec 7th Jan 11th & 25th

Coffee Pot

Dec 13th, Jan 10th, 24th

At the Village Centre
From 10.30am

Small Groups

Dec 5th, 19th, Jan 9th, 23rd

If you have any articles
for the next Connect they
need to be in by
20 January 2019

Dates for your Diary

- Dec 03 Autism Group 9.00am
CLT Business Meeting 8pm
- Dec 04 The Bridge 8pm
- Dec 06 Prayer for Israel 9.30am
After School Club 3.15pm
- Dec 10 CLT Prayer 8pm
- Dec 11 The Journey 11am (VC)
Teens Group
- Dec 12 Grace Course 1.30pm
- Dec 13 Food for Thought 9am
Prayer for Israel 9.30am
- Dec 15 Carol Service 5.15pm (Pavilion)
- Dec 16 Nativity Service 10.45am
- Dec 18 The Bridge 8pm
- Dec 19 Grace Course 1.30pm
- Dec 20 Prayer for Israel 9.30am
After School Club 3.15pm
- Jan 03 Film - War Room 1.30pm
- Jan 07 Autism Group 9.00am
CLT Business Meeting 8pm
- Jan 08 The Journey 11am (VC)
Teens Group
- Jan 09 Grace Course 1.30pm
- Jan 10 Prayer for Israel 9.30am
After School Club 3.15pm
- Jan 15 The Bridge 8pm
- Jan 17 Food for Thought 9am
Prayer for Israel 9.30am
- Jan 20 Unity Service
- Jan 21 CLT Prayer 8pm
- Jan 22 The Journey 11am (VC)
Teens Group
- Jan 24 Prayer for Israel 9.30am
After School Club 3.15pm
- Jan 30 Global Vision Group 7.45pm
- Jan 31 Food for Thought 9am
Prayer for Israel 9.30am

See www.chinnor.org.uk for more info

More Dates for Your Diary And things for you to pray for ...

Mission Breakfast	Saturday 2 nd February 2019
CCC Church Members Meeting	Monday 11 th February 2019 7.30pm
World Day of Prayer	Friday 1 st March 2019 10.30am & 7.30pm
Silver Harmony	7 th and 8 th August 2019

HOUSE OF PRAYER

"If we would understand the potential power of our prayers,
we would be on our knees a hundred times a day and ask Him for
things that would turn the world upside down"

Brother Andrew

The Bridge is our mid-week prayer experience group which meets to seek the presence of God and exalt His name.

We are focused entirely on seeking the Lord's presence through prayer, worship and prophetic gifting.

- First and Third Tuesdays 8.00 - 9pm in the hall

Prayer for Israel

- Thursdays 9.30 - 10.30am at 14 Hill Farm Court

P.U.S.H (Pray until something happens)

CCC Services

Theme for 2018 - Plus One Encounters with Jesus

Sunday 2nd December

Cafe Church 9:00-9:45am

Morning Service 10:45am David and Jonathan - Pastor Pete Walley

Sunday 9th December

Cafe Church 9:00-9:45am

Morning Service 10:45am One King
- David Morgan

Sunday 16th December

Cafe Church 9:00-9:45am

Morning Service 10:45am Nativity
- Bruce Crawford

Sunday 23rd December

Cafe Church 9:00-9:45am

Morning Service 10:45am One Gift
- Pastor Pete Walley

Tuesday 25th December Christmas Day

Christmas Service 10.00am
- Pastor Pete Walley

Sunday 30th December

Cafe Church 9:00-9:45am

Morning Service 10:45am One More Thing
- Bruce Crawford

Sunday 6th January

Cafe Church 9:00-9:45am

Morning Service 10:45am

Sunday 13th January

Cafe Church 9:00-9:45am

Morning Service 10:45am

Sunday 20th January

United Service - Details tbc

Sunday 28th January

Cafe Church 9:00-9:45am

Morning Service 10:45am

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

“Come- Everything is ready!”

Our service this year has been prepared by Christian women in Slovenia and will be celebrated in services held all around the world on

Friday 1st March 2019

Everything is ready and the invitation is for everyone – men, women and children of all ages to join this Day of Prayer. Women of Slovenia, one of the smallest and youngest countries in Europe, have prepared this year's service and they encourage us to reflect on the barriers they have faced since the end of the Second World War when their country was a part of Yugoslavia, a Marxist socialist republic. They share the challenges they have met and the hopes they have for the future.

World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns and prayers. The preparation for the day is vast. An international committee is based in New York and there are national committees in each participating country. Regional conferences meet to consider the service and then local groups make their plans. Finally, at a church near you on the first Friday in March people will gather to celebrate the service prepared the women of Slovenia.

The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 120 countries, it begins in Samoa and prayer in native languages travels throughout the world.... through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas before finishing in American Samoa some 38 hours later.

Everyone is welcome so please come and join us at:
Chinnor Community Church, High street,
at 10.30am and again at 7.30pm

And stay afterwards for refreshments and a chat; we look forward to seeing you.

Anne Marie Lord, Monica Bartlett, Sue Marshall, Angela Martin
and Barbara Francis

World Day of Prayer ecumenical planning group in Chinnor.



World Day of Prayer

The origins of World Day of Prayer date back to the 19th century when Christian women in the USA and Canada initiated a variety of cooperative activities in support of women's involvement in mission, at home and abroad. It is from such roots as these that WDP has taken its present shape – a worldwide ecumenical movement of Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action.

ACTIVITIES CENTRED AROUND THE FOLLOWING AREAS

Concern for women and children: In spite of strong opposition from all-male mission boards, from 1861 onwards women founded numerous and effective women's boards for foreign and home missions, whereby they could work directly with and for women and children

The role of prayer in mission work: Since 1812 women had encouraged one another to engage in personal prayer and to lead communal prayer within their mission auxiliaries and associations. This emphasis on prayer led to annual days and weeks of prayers within individual denominations.

1887 – Presbyterian women called for a day of prayer for Home Missions and Methodist women called for a week of prayer and self-denial for foreign missions.

1891 – A Baptist day of prayer for foreign missions began.

1895 – A day of corporate intercessions for mission was initiated by the Women's Auxiliary of the Anglican Church of Canada.

BUT WOMEN HAD A VISION OF CHRISTIAN UNITY

By **1897** the women of six denominations formed a joint committee for a united day of prayer for home missions.

In **1912** The Women's Boards of Foreign Missions called for a united day of prayer for foreign missions.

WOMEN ORGANISED INTERDENOMINATIONAL STRUCTURES THAT WERE EFFECTIVE AND COOPERATIVE

1908 – Women founded the Council of Women for Home Missions that took responsibility for joint work with immigrants and other social issues and for preparation of the joint day of prayer.

1910-1911 – Women celebrated 50 years of women's missionary activity by organizing a series of talks across the United States that provided a powerful experience of ecumenical cooperation, local and global networking, prayer and information sharing and biblical reflection.

OUT OF THIS EXPERIENCE MANY LOCAL INTERDENOMINATIONAL WOMEN'S GROUPS WERE FORMED

Efforts for unity continued and in 1922 two separate united days of prayer, one in Canada and one in the United States, came together with a common date – the first

Friday of Lent. In the second half of 1926 the women of North America distributed the worship service to many countries and partners in mission. The response worldwide was enthusiastic and **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** came into being.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER IN THE BRITISH ISLES

It was in 1928, at an international missionary conference in Jerusalem, that Scotswoman Grace Forgan first learned of the world day of prayer and brought the news to these islands.

THE FIRST SERVICES WERE HELD

1930 in Scotland

1932 in England

1933 in Wales

1934 in Ireland

1943 in Northern Ireland

The Second World War was a time of great growth – drawing women together in prayer and fellowship.

In **1941** the WDP office in London was bombed and all property and records destroyed. There was no loss of life and minutes recovered from members enabled the bare bones of the first 9 years to be preserved.

Often the planning committee in London met in an air-raid shelter but every year Orders of Service were produced and supplied to the rest of the country. This is now part of the work of the National Committee.

It was not until the reforms of the second Vatican Council that Roman Catholic women were able to take a full part in the day of prayer and in **1967** the day was celebrated at a special service in Westminster Cathedral, by invitation of Cardinal Heenan.

In **1969** the World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations encouraged Roman Catholic women worldwide to participate in WDP and to make this possible WUCWO moved their own day of prayer from March to May.

In **1982** the service was prepared by the women of Ireland, both north and south. In England, Wales and Northern Ireland there are now over 3,000 branches holding 5,000 services every year. Last year 275,000 copies of the order of service were printed.

THE LOGO

The logo was designed for the 1982 service. The design comprises arrows converging from the four points of the compass, four figures kneeling in prayer, the Celtic cross and a circle representing the world and our unity through all our diversity.

Ed: The change of name from Women's World Day of Prayer to World Day of Prayer took place in 2018 to align England, Wales and Northern Ireland with the rest of the world and it was felt that it would be more inclusive.

Test your knowledge with this Christmas Bible Quiz that includes question about our Christmas carols. Some questions are definitely easier than others! (A Hint: In the carol questions, if you can hum the tune that fits the words, you will often guess right!)

1. What baby was born to a relative of Mary's, about six months before the birth of Jesus?
2. What Old Testament prophet predicted the miraculous virgin birth of Christ?
3. Which two of the four Gospels make no mention of the birth of Christ?
4. Which Christmas carol has been voted the most popular one of all?
5. What is the meaning of the name "Jesus"?
6. Joseph and Mary lived in the town of Nazareth, far to the north of Bethlehem. What was it that brought them to Bethlehem, just before Christ was born?
7. Where does the Bible tell us that Jesus was born on December 25th?
8. What carol began in the ancient church as *one single word*? And what was that word?
9. Was the Lord Jesus born in a stable?
10. When hosts of angels appear to them, announcing Jesus' birth, a carol says the "shepherds quake at the sight." In what carol is the quoted line found?
11. One of our carols begins, "Angels we have heard on high, / Sweetly singing o'er the plains." What did the angels sing at Jesus' birth?
12. Since there were likely other babies in Bethlehem at the time what sign did the angel give the shepherds that would enable them to identify the baby Jesus?
13. Mary laid her new-born Son in a manger. A carol says Jesus had "no crib for a bed." What is the carol?
14. What carol contains the line, "Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing"?
15. What carol quotes the angels saying to the shepherds, "All glory be to God on high/And to the earth be peace"?

16. What carol fancifully describes "angels bending near the earth/To touch their harps of gold"?
17. What carol says of Jesus' birth, "While mortals sleep, the angels keep/Their watch of wondering love"?
18. What carol says of Christ's coming to earth, "Mild He lays His glory by, / Born that man no more may die"?
19. What carol begins, "Hark, how all the welkin rings!"
20. What carol says to the wise men, "Sages, leave your contemplations, Brighter visions beam afar"?
21. When the wise men arrived in the Holy Land, where did they go first?
22. Herod ruled that area for the Romans. What was his reaction when he heard that a new King had been born?
23. Who was it that told Herod about an Old Testament prophecy that Israel's Messiah-King would be born in Bethlehem?
24. Herod sent the wise men in search of the Baby. He told them to let him know where to find Him, so he could worship Him too (Matt. 2:8). But what was his real reason for wanting to know where Jesus was?
25. What carol tells us, "Then entered in those wise men three, / Full reverently upon the knee"?
26. Where did Joseph take Mary and the Baby to protect them from Herod's murderous intentions?
27. What is the meaning of the word "Noel," as in the carol line, "Noel, Noel/Born is the King of Israel"?
28. According to the Bible, how many wise men were there?
29. As well as being a gift from the wise men, at what other time was "myrrh" associated with Christ?
30. Referring to the English custom of ringing church bells on Christmas morning, what carol says, "Then pealed the bells more loud and deep"/"God is not dead: nor doth He sleep"?

Last Month The Answer:

- | | | | |
|------------------|--------------|------------|----------|
| 1. Right | 2. Left | 3. 9 and 0 | 4. Left |
| 5. Jimmy Cricket | 6. Mike Weir | 7. Left | 8. India |

Who's Who at



**Chinnor
Community
Church**

Our Leadership Team:

Pastor Pete Walley
Bruce Crawforth (Elder)
Will Austin
Ann Long
Janine Adams
Viv Haywood (Administrator/Premises)

Our Trustees

Susie Kelsey (Chair)
Steve Ludlow

Small Group Leaders:

Ann Long & Janine Adams
Viv Adams (Daytime)
Jean Sutcliffe (Daytime)
Barbara Francis
John & Viv Haywood
Susie Kelsey
Steve & Fiona Ludlow
Jean Sutcliffe & Ian Swaffield

Youth Work:

Sundays:

Pebbles: Barbara Francis
The Rock (Yrs 2-6): Anna Chalk
Rock Solid (Yrs 7-9): Jean Sutcliffe
Summit (Yrs 10-13):
Jess Merrow-Smith

Fridays:

FN@6 6-7.15pm
(Yrs 2-6): Viv Haywood
FN@7 7-9pm
(Yrs 7-9): Ian & Shane Swaffield

Tuesday:

Rainbow Tots: Sarah Mak
Teens Tuesday Group: Zoe Powell

The Bridge: Steve Kelsey

The Journey: via the Church Office

CCC Coffee Pot: Peter Brown

Men's Own: Peter Hopgood

Ladies Nights: Kim Hopgood,
Sarah Mak, Anna Chalk

Tear Fund Rep: John Gravett

Evangelical Alliance Rep:
Janine Adams

Christian Aid via the Church Office

Samaritans Purse – Pam Dunn

Health and Safety: Bruce Crawforth

Child Protection: Fiona Ludlow

Family Worker: Kim Hopgood
familyworkerccc@gmail.com
07480334617 (9am - 5pm only)

Connect Editor: Barbara Francis
b.francis@btinternet.com

Contact Details:

Church Administrator/Premises:
Viv Haywood 01844 352938
chinnorcommunitychurch@gmail.com

CCC Prayer Chain operates 7 days a week from 9am – 9pm. If you have a prayer need and want it to go onto the chain, contact:
Angela Martin on 01844 344945,
Viv Haywood on 01844 355935 or
Sheila Gravett on 01844 353138.