



Our Holiday Club
Reunion will take place
on Sunday 6th
September

Welcome to the September edition of our monthly newsletter

This month we think about all the young people returning to school after the Summer Holidays, please pray for those starting new schools or classes that they may settle in well and have a great first term.

If you are new to our church please do introduce yourself to our welcome team. You can also fill out a contact card from the pews.

Rector: Rev Jake Eggertsen
jake@stjamestrowbridge.co.uk

Curate: Rev Chris Adams
chris@stjamestrowbridge.co.uk

Children's & Families Ministry Leader:
Nick Lambert

nick@stjamestrowbridge.co.uk

Church Office Manager: Clair Matthews

clair@stjamestrowbridge.co.uk

admin@stjamestrowbridge.co.uk

Wardens: Richard Clarke & John Joy

 hello@stjamestrowbridge.co.uk

 stjamestrowbridge.co.uk

 stjamestrowbridge

 07565 917441



Please
Recycle
Me

Rector's Reflection

Refreshment for Thirsty Souls



The scorching heat of August has given me an unexpected appreciation for rain. I never thought I would find myself looking forward to the prospect of a wet and dreary autumn, but after such a dry summer, I think I am!

The parched and thirsty ground is a significant image in the Bible, particularly in the book of Isaiah. Isaiah speaks of burning sands and empty wastelands being transformed into pools of water and flowing springs. But for him, this is more than a picture of the natural world. It is an image of what God does for weary and thirsty people.

*"The desert and the parched land will be glad;
the wilderness will rejoice and blossom." (Isaiah 35.1)*

At the end of September, we will celebrate Harvest. This year, however, there will be plenty of people for whom the harvest is not a picture of abundance and plenty. Farmers have faced a particularly difficult year, with the dry weather affecting crops and livestock. Harvest reminds us to give thanks for what we have received, but it also reminds us that we are dependent on gifts that are ultimately beyond our control.

The Christian faith does not promise that every season will be fruitful or that every year will bring an abundant harvest. There are dry and barren seasons in our lives as well as in our fields. Sometimes we may feel spiritually tired, emotionally empty, or simply unsure where we are going. We can be surrounded by plenty and still find ourselves deeply thirsty.

It is into that thirst that Jesus speaks.

When he meets the Samaritan woman at the well, Jesus promises that the water he gives will become *"a spring of water welling up to eternal life"* (John 4.14). And later, during a water festival in Jerusalem, he makes an even more direct invitation: *"Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink"* (John 7.37).

That is an invitation worth hearing again this autumn. As the summer comes to an end and the familiar rhythms of September return, perhaps you are looking forward to getting back to church after a summer away. Perhaps you have been coming regularly throughout the summer. Or perhaps it has been a long time since you last came through the doors of St James'.

Whoever you are, and whatever kind of season you have been experiencing, you are welcome. Church is not a place reserved for people whose lives are flourishing. It is a place where thirsty people can come and drink from the one who gives "living water." Even in a dry and barren year, there can be refreshment for our souls.

So as autumn begins, and as we give thanks for the harvest we have received, I hope you will join us. Come as you are. Come with your thankfulness, your worries, your weariness, your questions and your hopes. And may we discover together that the God who makes rivers flow in deserts still brings refreshment to thirsty souls.



Services in September

Friday 4th September 10.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 6th September

8.00am Holy Communion

10.45am Sunday Worship* Holiday Club Reunion

Readings: Isaiah 49:1-6 Acts 10:24-44

Sunday 13th September

10.45am Sunday Worship (HC)*

Readings: Isaiah 2:1-5 Acts 11:19-30

4.30pm Prayer and Praise

Friday 18th September 10.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 20th September

10.45am Sunday Worship*

Readings: Psalm 34 Acts 12:1-25

4.30pm Adult Sunday School

** indicates
livestreamed
services*

Sunday 27th September

10.45am Sunday Worship (HC)* Harvest

Readings: Deuteronomy 8:7-18 Luke 12:16-30

Followed by Church Harvest Lunch

We pray for: Bob Hughes, Audrey Griffiths, Anne-Marie Glenn, Vic Fielding, Jeannette Worth, the Hamilton-Browns, Jan Shrapnell, Joanna Danak, Margaret Humphreys, Andrew, David Gilbert, Peter Hinchliffe, the friends and family of Margaret Gilbert

Please let Clair know of names to be added or removed.



Prayer Chain: We now have a dedicated email address for all your prayer requests, please email: prayers@stjamestrowbridge.co.uk

St James' September Diary

For all the latest updates go to www.stjamestrowbridge.co.uk/whats-on

Tues 1st	10.30am	Fellowship and Crafts (Pat Doel's house)
Sat 5th	9.30am	Band Practice in Church
Sun 6th	12noon	Quarter Peal Attempt
Mon 7th	7.00pm	Monday Homegroup in Church
Tues 8th	10.30am	Fellowship Group at Farleigh Avenue
	11.00am	Goodson Lodge Service
Wed 9th	2.30pm	Wednesday Homegroup in the Lower Vestry
Thurs 10th	6.30pm	Soup Run Duty
Sat 12th	10.00am	Heritage Open Day, Ride & Stride and Tower Open
Tues 15th	10.30am	Fellowship and Crafts (Pat Doel's house)
	11.00am	Raleigh Court Service
Wed 16th	10.15am	Mothers' Union Prayers in Church
Thurs 17th	6.30pm	Soup Run Duty
Fri 18th	7.00pm	Youth Fellowship in Church Hall
Sat 19th	3.00pm	Margaret Gilbert Thanksgiving Service
	7.00pm	SDGR Devizes Branch Practice
Mon 21st	7.00pm	Monday Homegroup
Wed 23rd	2.30pm	Wednesday Homegroup in Lower Vestry
Sun 27th	12noon	10/12 Bell Quarter Peal

Building Closure: The church building will be closed for essential electrical work from **Monday 28th September until Friday 16th October**. During this time our ministry will continue. The church will open at the weekend.



**Coffee Corner is open throughout the month:
Mon, Tues, Wed & Sat 10.00am to 12.00 noon**

Please note coffee corner will only be open on Saturdays when the church is closed for electrical work. See dates above.

Keeping the coffee corner open is an integral part of St James' ministry and outreach to our wider community. We currently have various gaps on the weekday and Sunday rota, please prayerfully consider helping out in this important service. Speak to Cath Senior or Barbara King.

The Service of Thanksgiving for Margaret

Gilbert will take place at 3pm on Saturday 19th September at St James' followed by refreshments in the church hall. All welcome.

The family have asked that people refrain from wearing black.



BELL NEWS: There will be a Quarter Peal attempt by the tower band on the 6th after morning service.



The tower will be open 10 - 12 and 2- 4 on the 12th for Heritage Open Day. There will also be a portable ring of bells for people to "have a go"

Devizes Branch Practice will be on the 19th from 7 - 9pm and a Quarter Peal attempt on the 27th after morning service.

Bell Ringing practice takes place every Wednesday, 7pm until 9pm

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

There will be no Mothers' Union monthly meeting on September 2nd as some members are attending a Mothers' Union service at Christ Church Derry Hill.

Mothers' Union Prayers in Church Wednesday
16th September at 10.15am.



Sunday 27th September 10.45am **Harvest Service**

Followed by Ploughman's Lunch
and puddings in the church hall

£5 per adult, under 18s free. Sign up on our website




ST JAMES' CHURCH
TROWBRIDGE



MONDAY OFFICE

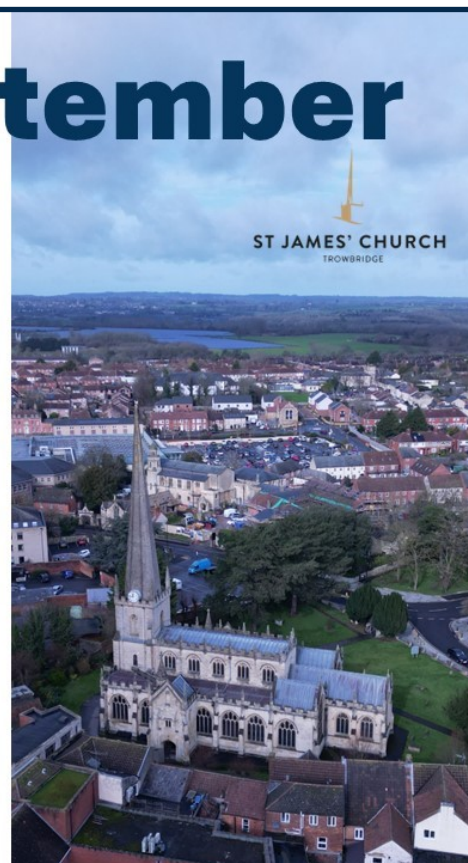
A Short service of Morning Prayer on
Mondays from 9 to 9.30am in church.

Saturday 12th September

St James' will be open from
10am to 4pm for



The Bell Tower will be open 10am - 12noon
and 2pm and 4pm. There will also be a
portable ring of bells for people to "have a go"



ST JAMES' CHURCH
TROWBRIDGE

CALLING ALL TEENS YR 7-13

Fridays 7pm until 9pm - St James Hall, Trowbridge

**St James'
Youth Fellowship**

Games, sports, crafts, quizzes,
tuck shop, bible study and
lots, lots more!

Dates for Autumn Term

September 18th
October 2nd & 16th
November 6th & 20th
December 4th & 18th



To Find out more visit our website, email
yf@stjamestrowbrige.co.uk or speak to Nicola or Clair

St James' Youth
YF
Fun • Faith • Fellowship!

Children & Families



As we look to the academic year ahead, let me highlight some priorities for the Children and Families work at St James. These fit with our church's vision to proclaim Christ, grow disciples and love Trowbridge.

1. To support parents as they look to raise their children to know Jesus

This is an important part of my role and something that all of us as parents need support with. At Seekers we teach children the good news of Jesus but this is for only 30-40 minutes, whereas children are with their parents for a lot longer than that over the course of a week! Therefore I'm keen to help parents think through how they can share Jesus with their children day to day.

2. To go on loving families and sharing Jesus at groups and events



Groups such as Tots and Who Let the Dads Out provide a wonderful opportunity to love local families and share the gospel with them. We are building really good relationships with families at these groups, so please pray for us as leaders as we seek to do this. We also have our Holiday Club Reunion (Sept 6th), the

Bright Lights Party (Friday 23rd Oct) and Christmas services coming up this term, where we can love families and seek to share the gospel with them.

3. To build deeper relationships with local schools

We have 4 schools in our Parish. These are Bellefield, Newtown, Paxcroft and Willowbrook. We have good relationship with all them and especially with Bellefield. There are good signs that in the year ahead, we'll be able to deepen relationships with Paxcroft and Willowbrook as well as maintaining the good relationship we have with Newtown. Please pray for this to happen.

Nick

Bring your own picnic (we'll provide the pudding) and games in the Rectory garden. Sign up on by [clicking here](#) or scanning the QR Code



Back from 2nd September

St James'



CALLING ALL PRIMARY SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN



Back from 6th September

WHO LET THE DADS OUT?

Saturday 12th September

Toys for the Kids,
Tea, Coffee &
Great Food,
St James Parish
Church Hall
9.30 - 11am





The Storehouse Foodbank not only provides clients with support in the form of food parcels, but in other numerous and diverse ways too.

Each week around 200 people are fed through the food bank. They might be couples, single people or families who have fallen on hard times, whether its loss of a job, an unexpected expense and a budget that only supports their day to day needs or another crisis.

Currently the weekly Community lunch feeds about 30-40 people, again these are a mixture of people including street homeless.

Showers and laundry facilities are

provided for clients, particularly those who are homeless, where they can be invaluable not only to their physical well being, but their mental well being too.

There are certain things which are always needed, such as toiletries; particularly men's toiletries, laundry items and loo rolls. UHT milk is invaluable, particularly for clients without a fridge, meals whether tinned or microwavable, rice, as well as items that will support families during the school holidays.

Currently tinned vegetables are particularly needed such as potatoes, tomatoes, carrots, sweetcorn and mixed vegetables. Donations of alcohol, or foods containing alcohol or alcohol flavouring cannot be accepted.

Please remember the work of the foodbank in your prayers and thank you for your generous and continued support Ann Cook

OUR CHARITY FOCUS September and October is



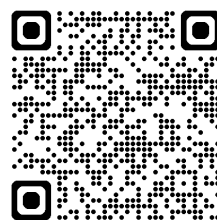
Wiltshire Youth for Christ is a dynamic and innovative Christian faith based youth and community organisation. They support young people primarily in the area of West Wiltshire.

Wiltshire Youth for Christ currently delivers Connect Mentoring and support in seven schools across

Wiltshire; providing one-to-one support for pupils. Through workers and volunteers, they meet with students on a regular basis to support them in their school context.

Volunteers are equipped with support and regular 'Mentor' training sessions.

The next mentor training day is on **Saturday 3rd October** in St James' Church Hall. Ideal whether you're just thinking about mentoring young people OR want to hone your skills.





St Leonard's Keevil



Sunday 6th September

9.15am Sunday Worship

Readings: Isaiah 49:1-6 Acts 10:24-44

Saturday 12th September

12.00pm Operation Market Garden Commemoration
Service at the Stocks Memorial

Sunday 13th September

9.15am Sunday Worship (HC)

Readings: Isaiah 2:1-5 Acts 11:19-30

Sunday 20th September

9.15am Sunday Worship (MP)

Readings: Psalm 34 Acts 12:1-25

Sunday 27th September

6.00pm Harvest Festival Service

Readings: Deuteronomy 8:7-18 Acts 12:1-25

Coming up at St Leonard's

Organ Recital: Friday 4th September, 7pm in church, details on the following page.

Harvest Supper: Saturday 26th September 7pm in the village hall. Come along and enjoy a ploughman's as we remember farmers and growers. Please let Debbie know if you would like to join us.



St Leonard's Church, Keevil

7 p.m. Friday 4th September 2026

**Keith Strickland, a village organist,
will play a selection of music
ancient and modern**

Donations, please, to the church roof repair fund

Drinks and savouries will be available

