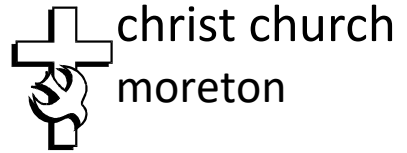


October 2017 at



Dear friends at Christchurch

*All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love*

Despite the fact that few of us grow our own food anymore, and that in our global community we can buy food grown anywhere in the world, I think that celebrating harvest is still important.

First – it is a reminder that all good gifts around us really do come from our generous God. We are still dependent on rain and sun if crops are to grow properly, as we see when drought causes severe famine in other parts of the world. We really should stop and acknowledge our dependence on God and our gratitude to him.

Second, harvest is a reminder that for plants to grow, they do need care. Those of us who do enjoy gardening know very well that if plants are neglected, they will never produce a good crop. And that is true in the Christians life. Prayer, Bible study, worship – these are the things which lead to growth. That's why in our morning services at present we are looking at the things we can do to provide the right conditions for us to grow as disciples.

And third, harvest is a reminder that growth can be a slow process. Seeds are planted, they germinate, they start to grow, but it takes time – sometimes a long time – before the fruit is seen. And again, that is true in the Christian life. God works in us gradually to make us the people he wants us to be. Our verse for this year tells us that if we remain in the Lord Jesus, we will bear much fruit – but it doesn't promise that will happen overnight!

So harvest should be a time of thanksgiving to God for his goodness and generosity to us. But also a time for renewed commitment to patiently doing those things which will help us to grow as disciples.

Yours in Christ

Graham Cousins

DEBBI STOTT

Debbi has finished her curacy with us, but as many of you will know, the good news is that she will be staying at Christ Church as Associate Minister. To mark the start of this new role for Debbi, Bishop Peter will be licensing her for her ministry at our 10.45 am service on Sunday 15th October. Do please put the date in your diary and be here to support Debbi. *(There will be a short service of Morning Prayer at 9.00 am that day)*

CHRIST CHURCH WEEKEND AWAY 2018

Friday 22nd – Sunday 24th June

at Tyn-y-Nant in North Wales

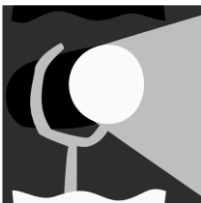
Booking forms available soon – but do save the date!

COMMEMORATION SERVICE



Each autumn we hold a special service to which we invite those who have been bereaved over the previous year. This year the service will take place on **Sunday 29th October at 4.30 pm.**

This is a service at which there will be prayer for those who have been bereaved and also an opportunity to remember loved ones and to give thanks to God for them. If you know anyone for whom this service might be helpful do please let them know, and please consider coming along yourself, even if you've not been bereaved. It would be good to have people from church to share in the service.



THE LIGHT PARTY

Tuesday 31st October, 5.00 – 6.30 pm

More details later in the month

Regular Weekly activities

- Monday - * 9.30 am Toddler group
* 9.30 to 11.00 am Lighthouse tea bar
1.00 pm TLC
- Tuesday - * 9.30 am Toddler group
* 9.30 to 11.00 am Lighthouse tea bar
* 3.30 pm S.O.S
6.00 to 7.30 pm Foodbank
- Wednesday - * 5.15 Rainbows
- Thursday - * 9.45 and 11.00 am Keep fit
1.00 pm Craft Group
* 5.30 pm Brownies
- Friday - 9.15 am Mothers and others
2.00 to 3.30 pm Foodbank

* Closed half term week Monday 23rd to Friday 27th October

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday 21st October
9.00 am



WORK PARTY

Saturday 21st October
10.00 am



LADIES LUNCH

No ladies Lunch this month

SERVICES THIS MONTH

Growing through

God wants his people to grow as disciples, but if that is to happen, we need to use the means of growth God has given us.

Sunday 1st Oct – Growing through Patience – Galatians 6:7-11
(**Harvest**)

Sunday 8th Oct – Growing through suffering – 2 Corinthians 1:3-7

Sunday 15th Oct – Growing through service – Ephesians 4:11-16
Debbi's licensing by Bishop Peter at 10.45 am,
(*short morning prayer service at 9.00 am*)

Sunday 22nd Oct – Growing through community – 1 Peter 4:7-11

Sunday 29th Oct – Growing through worship – Hebrews 10:19-25.
(*Just one service – Christ Church Together at 10.45 am*)

Seven things God can't do!

Our children sometimes sing 'Our God is so big, so strong and so mighty, there's nothing that he cannot do.' But the Bible does tell us of some things that God can't do – and they are all very good news!

Sunday 1st Oct – No service at Christ Church

Sunday 8th Oct – God can't lie – Titus 1:2

Sunday 15th Oct – God can't reject you – Isaiah 43:25

Sunday 22nd Oct – God can't get tired – Isaiah 40:28

Sunday 29th Oct – No evening service at Christ Church
(*Christ Church Together at 10.45 am*)



christ church
moreton
making disciples
growing disciples
being disciples