

The Log



St Lawrence
with St Paul
Longridge

Come and See Weekend

A weekend to **invite others**,
grow together and **discover** more of Jesus.



FRIDAY 11TH –
SUNDAY 13TH
SEPTEMBER 2026



Everyone is welcome.
Come and see –
then go and tell!

Who will you invite?



St. Lawrence with St. Paul Longridge - September 2026

The Parish Magazine
www.stlawrencewithstpaul.org.uk

Following Jesus
on Mission

£1.00

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The Log

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Vicar's Notes

Things definitely start up again in September: schools, clubs, work projects and indeed our 'Come and See' Weekend of parish activities celebrating the 100th anniversary of Blackburn Diocese by inviting our family and friends to encounter the love of Jesus – more details below!

This Autumn burst into activity can make us feel productive and useful but over Summer I've been reading a most deep and wonderful book called 'Insane for the Light' by Ronald Rolheiser. It's full of wisdom about how to live out our final years well. It makes the point that Jesus was most generative – most productive if you like, when from a human perspective things were outside of his control and he was being 'done to' rather than 'doing' during the suffering of his final journey to the cross and his eventual death. Along with many other Christian writers, Rolheiser believes that 'giving our death's away' for the sake of others, in love, in forgiveness and in peace, is the final and perhaps greatest contribution and gift we can make to those who will succeed us. There's certainly a lot to ponder for those seeking to grow in Christlike maturity.

Come and See Weekend at St Lawrence with St Paul - 11th to 13th September

This exciting weekend is in many ways the centre point of this year's vision emphasis, 'Following Jesus on Mission'. It's an opportunity for all of us to be refreshed in our Christian faith and to introduce Jesus to those we know and care about. You can see the flyer on page 5 which lists the events taking place and this is where we need your help.

Firstly, can you come along and invite others to join you? If so it would be helpful for catering purposes if you could pick up a ticket from the back of St Lawrence or St Paul's Church after one of our services, or alternatively you can email me at revmikebarton@gmail.com.

Secondly, to welcome everyone, including newcomers, in the best way possible we're going to need help to run the different activities – again if you're able to sign up for this using the sheets at the back of our churches or email me it would be much appreciated?

Alpha Course 2026 – beginning Thursday 17th September, 7.30-9.15pm

Hot on the heels of our Parish 'Come and See' Weekend this extremely popular 8 session course will run on Thursday evenings in the Autumn. It's for everyone and provides the perfect opportunity to test the Christian faith and ask those questions you've always wanted to ask. A simple meal is provided and it's a brilliant opportunity to meet some new people as well – More details can be seen on the flyer on page 6 and if you might be able to provide one of the main meals or desserts please do email me – thank you.

Vicar's Notes continued**New 4pm Service at St Paul's Church**

On the back of the success of the trial of Messy Church, which will continue to run on the 3rd Sunday of the month, now at 4pm at St Paul's Church, we're planning to run a new informal All Age Service called 'The 4'. And yes, it too will run at 4pm at St Paul's. The idea of starting 'The 4' is that those who enjoy coming to Messy Church and others who prefer a more informal style of worship will have a service they can come to every week. The service will last for approximately 45 minutes, its style will be relaxed, the teaching will be interactive, worship will be led by a small worship group or using the AV System, and we hope intentional prayer ministry and testimony will become a regular feature of the service.

Because of the 'Come and See' Weekend the date of the 4pm Messy Church unusually falls on the second Sunday of the month in September (13th) so the schedule of services in September is a little different. This means that the launch date of 'The 4' will be **Sunday 20th September** and we can't wait to see you!

Please note that Children's Church will still operate at full capacity at the 10am Holy Communion Service at St Paul's Church. The bonus of 'The 4' is that there will now be an additional service on a Sunday which is easy for Children to attend so there is greater flexibility to worship together for those who find themselves with lots of things to do on a Sunday.

Equally, the introduction of 'The 4' will not make any difference to the running of the Sunday 6.30pm Evensong service at St Lawrence Church which is perfect for those who like a more reflective service at the end of the day.

School Uniform Fund.

Thank you to those who have donated money to the School Uniform Fund this year as the summertime can be a particular crunch time when families need to kit out their children for the academic year ahead. Your generosity is much appreciated and helps children go to school feeling confident and looking smart. The fund remains open throughout the year so if you or someone you know is struggling to meet the cost of buying a school uniform then please do contact me. Equally we are happy to receive donations at any time.

Community Foodbank @ Longridge (www.longridgefoodbank.co.uk)

This Churches Together Foodbank runs every Friday, 11am-1.30pm at St Paul's Church. Any nonperishable items you can donate such as pasta sauce, tinned meat, long life milk, sponge puddings, tomato ketchup and toilet rolls, nappies etc. will be much appreciated.

You can also financially support the Community Foodbank @ Longridge using their Business Account – Account Number: 12833754, Sort Code: 01-00-53 and for more information you can contact the Foodbank team on their telephone number: 01772 355731.

A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS

We are extremely grateful for the support of our advertisers. We are sure that Log readers will make every effort to support these local businesses. Don't forget, to make the adverts easier to find, the directory on page 2 includes the page number where each advert appears. We are pleased to welcome several new advertisers this year along with those who have supported us in the past. We also wish those who are retiring this year and those who have moved away from Longridge our best wishes for the future.

Once again our thanks go to Naomi Pinder for the work she does in the advertising sphere.

Come and See

11-13 SEPTEMBER 2026



St Lawrence
with St Paul
Longridge



FRIDAY

11 SEPT



Come and Quiz



LONGRIDGE CIVIC HALL



7.00—10.00PM

A fun, interactive quiz night for all ages with hotpot supper and dessert included.

SATURDAY

12 SEPT



Come, Chat and Eat



ST PAUL'S CENTENARY ROOM



9.30—11.00AM

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Come and Laugh



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7.00—10.30PM

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SUNDAY

13 SEPT



Come and Discover



ST PAUL'S CHURCH



10.00—11.00AM

A welcoming service exploring the Christian faith through inspiring worship and teaching.



Come and See - Messy Mission



ST PAUL'S CHURCH



4.00—5.30PM

Creative crafts, games, stories and food for children and families.



Come and Sing Along



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6.30—7.30PM

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is welcome!*

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St Lawrence
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The Alpha Course

You're invited

Alpha is a chance to explore life and the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment.



The Alpha Course at St Lawrence with St Paul is for anyone curious about exploring the meaning of life and the Christian faith. Each session includes a meal, a short talk and a discussion at the end where you can share your thoughts. At any point, if you think Alpha isn't for you, that's not a problem. There's no pressure, no follow up and no charge.



Starts September 2026

Thursday evenings, 7.30 – 9.15pm at St Paul's Church, PR3 3WA



Our next Alpha will run on the following dates:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ▶ 17/09 – Is There More To Life Than This? | ▶ 17/10 – What About The Holy Spirit? (Saturday) |
| ▶ 24/09 – Who Is Jesus? | ▶ 22/10 – Why And How Should I Read the Bible? |
| ▶ 01/10 – Why Did Jesus Die? | ▶ 29/10 – <i>HALF TERM BREAK</i> |
| ▶ 08/10 – How Can I Have Faith? | ▶ 05/11 – How Can I Make The Most Of The Rest Of My Life? |
| ▶ 15/10 – Why And How Do I Pray? | ▶ 12/11 – What About The Church? |



For more information or to sign up
please email revmikebarton@gmail.com

———— No pressure. No follow up. No charge. ————

Clergy & Church Officers

Vicar	Rev. Mike Barton	The Vicarage, Church Street	01772 389837	revmikebarton@gmail.com
Curate	Rev Jesse Adesina		07776 750695	revjesseadesina@gmail.com
Retired Clergy:	Rev. John Ball		07754 771220	
	Rev. Adrian Mairs	8 Hacking Drive	01772 356015	adrian.s.mairs@gmail.com
			07899 905768	
Licensed Reader	Janet Mortimer	8 Tootle Road	07734 475762	jan.mortimer1958@hotmail.co.uk
Churchwardens	Dot Little	26 Hoghton Road	01772 783998	dotlittle003@gmail.com
	Helen Clements	30 Kestor Lane	07864 574945	hrclements61@gmail.com
Deputy Wardens	Dorothy Laver	19 The Pastures, Grimsargh	07719 389529	dorothylaver@gmail.com
	Mae Heys	29 Fell Brow	07740 068099	
PCC Secretary	Barbara Burton	7 Chaigley Road		brbrbrtn6@gmail.com
PCC Treasurer	Graham Kelsall			graham@oaktreehouse.net
Safeguarding Officer	Kelly Grogan			psostlandplongridge@gmail.com
Parish Administrator	Michael Dawson	See hours below	01772 783281	secretarystandplongridge@gmail.com
Health & Safety Officer	Caroline Wilson			georod4658@gmail.com
Electoral Role Officer	Michael Dawson			
Ignite-Children & Youth Leader—Becky Filder				becky.ignitelongridge@gmail.com

Parochial Church Council

Chairman	<i>Rev. Mike Barton</i>
Hon. Secretary	<i>Barbara Burton</i>
Hon. Treasurer & Stewardship Recorder	<i>Graham Kelsall</i>
Members:	Clergy and Churchwardens Amii Bateson, Karen Boardman, Ellen Dawson, Andrew Filder, David Hartley, Mae Heys, Philip Jones, Vernon Kinrade, Rosemary Lyons, Barbara McCormick, Annamarie Rogers-Waterman, Val Wardley, Stephanie Willan.

Organisations

Parish Administrator	<i>Michael Dawson</i>
Parish Office Monday and Wednesday	9:30—12:30
Friday	9.30—15.30
	01772 783281
Altar Flowers	
Hon. Sec. St. Lawrence	Dot Little 01772 783998
	Judith Kaye 01772 785114
Hon. Sec. St. Paul	Ellen Dawson 07487 741745
	ellendawson7@gmail.com
Choir	
Organist and Choir Director	Karen Au
	kauorganist@gmail.com
Church Lads & Church Girls Brigade	
Wednesday Nights Berry Lane School Term Times	
Martins and Y-Team (Reception-Year 5 6.15-7.30pm)	
JTC and Seniors (Year 6 and Above) 7-9pm	
Oliviastewart@clcgb.org.uk	AmiiBateson@clcgb.org.uk
Crafty Café	
Last Monday each month, Centenary Room 1.30 - 3.30pm also:	
Contacts	Helen Bailey 07891 075023
	Bev Keating
	Jean Saunders 01772640146
Handbell Ringers	
Leader	Judith Kaye
	judithkaye@sky.com
	Park View, Fleet Street, PR3 3ED
	01772 785114

Children's Church	
Carolyn Barton	carolynbarton@hotmail.co.uk
Mothers Union	7.30pm on 1st Tuesday
Enrolling Member	Judith Kaye Park View, Fleet Street, PR3 3ED
	judithkaye@sky.com 01772 785114
Prayerline	If you would like our prayer team to pray for you e-mail
Muriel Anderson	12 Plessington Court, Brewery Street, Longridge
	Murielanderson33@gmail.com 07823 762089
Tuesday Club	7.30pm on 2nd Tuesday
Chairman	Fred Little 26 Hoghton Road 01772 783998
Hon. Sec.	vacant
Walkie Talksies	
	Hannah Green 20 Darwen Close 01772 783558
Bereavement Group	
meets on 1st Monday of the month including Bank Holidays	
	Karen Burdett 07712 440135
	karenlburdett@hotmail.com

Longridge C of E Primary School	
www.longridge-ce.lancsngfl.ac.uk	
Headteacher	
Mrs Catherine Parkin	
head@longridge-cofe.lancs.sch.uk	
Clerk to the Governors	
Val Morris	01524 581136 c/o the School Office
School Office	01772 782378
	bursar@longridge-cofe.lancs.sch.uk
Pre-School	01772-780078
PTFA Hon. Sec.	Katie Keighley

Sidesmen and Sideswomen

Bev Keating, Janet Heap,
Peter Turver, Lib Turver, Graham Kelsall,
Dianne Sanderson, Muriel Anderson,
Merilyn Kinrade, Andrew Filder, Philip Jones,
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Mothers' Union

If you haven't already heard, Mothers' Union celebrates 150 years this year! Mary Sumner Day falls on 8th August which this year happily fell on a Saturday allowing many people to gather at Blackburn Cathedral for a service of celebration. This was led by Bishop Philip, assisted by Canon Andrew Horfall and Fr Donald Carey (Diocesan Chaplain). There were so many people there the cathedral staff had to put out quite a lot more chairs. It was a service of communion, and the readings, prayers and hymns had obviously been chosen to reflect the work that Mary Sumner started, and today's members continue. Our banner was one of 74 proudly displayed around the cathedral. (I immediately spotted it as I walked in) A brochure has been produced with a brief history, where available, of the banners present. The Diocesan banner was presented during the first hymn along with a new one that was a collage of items children had made that morning. There was an exhibition set out around the cathedral showing some of the work Mothers' Union is involved in plus a lot of archive material from days gone by. It was great to see so many members from across the diocese and join in the celebration.



Dates

1st September
6th October

Service with Kathleen Sturzaker
Speaker the be confirmed

JAK

Handbells

Handbell practices will resume on 10th September at 6pm in the parish room at St Lawrence's. If you would like to try, please come along. You don't need to be able to read music as our copies are colour coded for the notes you would need to ring but the ability to count to six is useful! We are a team of 10 at the moment but one or two more would enable us to rotate players to cover for absences, that in turn would mean we would avoid the need to cancel if we had too many of the team missing at one time. We generally practice weekly, but this is flexible to fit around other commitments and progress being made. We will begin in September with preparation for Christmas. It would be lovely to see a new face or two.



JAK

St Paul's Place Memory Café.

The doors to St Paul's Place will open on Tuesday 22nd September.

The café will be a relaxing, welcoming space for anyone aged 60 years or over who struggle with memory problems and for their carers. There will be a cup of tea or coffee, a cake and the opportunity to chat and make new friends and, if desired, take part in activities.

To find out more and book a place please email Marian at stpaulsplace330@gmail.com



St Lawrence
with St Paul
Longridge

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THE **4**

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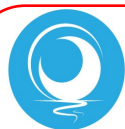
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Satellites 2026 – A Week to Remember! - Becky Ignite Children & Youth Leader

This month, I wanted to share a little about one of the highlights of my summer – Satellites, an annual Christian youth festival for 12–17-year-olds, held at the Bath & West Showground.

This year I went along to experience Satellites for myself, with the hope that in future we might be able to take a group of young people from Longridge. I came away completely in awe of what an amazing event it is and so excited about what it could offer our young people.



Around 4,000 young people gathered for the week, camping together and enjoying everything from a skate park and arcade to sports, creative activities and plenty of places just to hang out. Alongside all of that, each day was centred around helping young people grow in their relationship with Jesus, with Bible studies, workshops and talks, as well as two main gatherings each day filled with worship, teaching and opportunities for prayer.

It was also a real privilege to be part of the team making the event happen. I served on the Canvas team, a venue packed with creative activities where young people could come, make, create, chat and spend time together. Andrew came along too and volunteered as part of the Sports team. Satellites even has dedicated children's venues for the children of team members and youth leaders, which meant the three Filder children could be part of the adventure too – and they absolutely loved it!

For me, though, the most special part of the week wasn't the huge range of activities or even the scale of the event. It was seeing thousands of young people choosing to explore their faith, worship Jesus and make space for God. It was an absolute joy and privilege to come alongside young people during the week, to worship with them and to have opportunities to pray with them.

One moment in particular will stay with me. On the final night, after a full week of activities, teaching and worship, there was a choice of late-night activities – including a disco and a late-night worship session. Hundreds of young people chose to spend their final evening worshipping together. Standing there amongst them, listening to hundreds of young voices worshipping Jesus, was incredibly moving and a wonderful reminder that God is very much at work in this generation.

I would love to take a group of young people from Longridge to Satellites next year and give them the opportunity to experience a week like this for themselves.

So, watch this space! And if you know a young person who will be aged 12–17 who you think would love to be part of Satellites next year, or perhaps you are an adult who would be interested in being part of the youth team that takes them, please come and have a chat with me.

I am already excited to see where this might lead!



CHILDREN'S CHURCH—Becky Filder

Over the summer, Children's Church has been mirroring the themes being explored in our main Sunday services as we have journeyed through the "I AM" statements of Jesus. Each week, our children have become detectives, searching for clues in the Bible to discover more about who Jesus is and what his words tell us about his character.

There has been plenty of fun along the way! When we explored "I am the Light of the World," we used UV pens to uncover hidden clues and glow-in-the-dark stars to think about how Jesus brings light into the darkness. For "I am the Resurrection and the Life," there was lots of laughter as we raced to wrap our friends in toilet roll as we explored the story of Lazarus and discovered that Jesus brings hope and new life.

As we thought about Jesus saying "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life," we made compasses and enjoyed car-themed activities as we considered what it means to follow Jesus and allow him to guide the way we live. During our "I am the Gate" week, we created sheep and built gates and sheepfolds from lolly sticks, helping us to explore Jesus' promise that we can find safety and belonging in him.



Alongside all the games, crafts, construction and sensory activities, it has been wonderful to see our children engaging with the Bible. Our older children in particular have been opening their Bibles each week and diving deeper into the passages, asking questions, looking for evidence and beginning to uncover some of the deeper truths behind Jesus' words.

One of the joys of this series has been seeing children of different ages explore the same truths in ways that work for them – whether through play, creativity, conversation or Bible study. Through every clue we have discovered, we have been building up a bigger picture of Jesus: the Bread of Life, the Light of the World, the Gate, the Good Shepherd, the Resurrection and the Life, the Way, the Truth and the Life, and the True Vine.

As our summer detective work comes to an end, our prayer is that these haven't simply been clues to solve, but truths that our children will carry with them – growing in their understanding of who Jesus is, learning to trust him and discovering what it means to follow him in their everyday lives.



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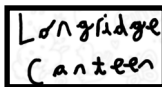
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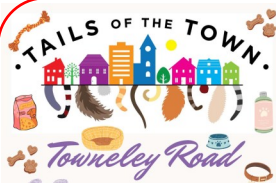
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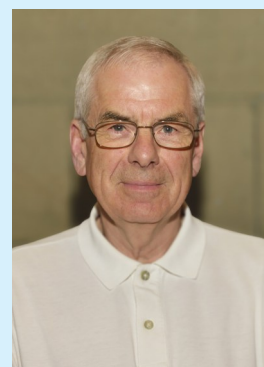
MY FAVOURITE HYMN – brought to us this month by David Hartley

Guide me, O my great Redeemer.

Guide me, O my great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain,
where the healing waters flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
ever be my strength and shield,
ever be my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's Destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever sing to you,
I will ever sing to you.



David tells us that this has been his longtime favourite hymn.

Written in Welsh as Arglwydd, arwain trwy'r anialwch (Lord, lead me through the wilderness). By William Williams, 1717-1791, translated Peter Williams, 1723-1796

William Williams, called the "Watts of Wales," was born at Cefn-y-coed, near Llandovery, Carmarthenshire. He originally studied medicine, but abandoned it for theology. He was ordained Deacon in the Church of England, but was refused Priest's Orders, and subsequently attached himself to the Calvinistic Methodists. For half a century he travelled in Wales, preaching the Gospel. He died in 1791. Williams composed his hymns chiefly in the Welsh language.

The general theme of the hymn compares human life to a pilgrimage through a "barren land," mirroring the Israelites traveling through the desert after leaving Egypt, giving hope and comfort to us all as we travel through our lives. In the past this hymn has also comforted Christian miners on their way to the dangers of their underground profession along with Welsh soldiers singing it in the trenches of World War I.



BREWTIME

Wednesday's from 8.50am-11am
In St Paul's Centenary Room.

We serve tea, coffee, toast, crumpets and cakes!
And there's always a warm and friendly welcome.
Do join us we would love to see you.

The Brewtime Team

SCHOOL NEWS – from Headteacher Catherine Parkin

School Games Award, Silver.

This year we return to school delighted to have been awarded a Silver School Games Mark. Having been awarded Bronze some time ago, this Silver award celebrates the school's commitment to 60 active minutes per day for each child, an increased engagement in school games and access to competitions regardless of gender. Our thanks to Miss Boardman who leads PE throughout school and plans the extra-curricular sporting activities and competitions that our children benefit from. This latest award highlights another area of excellence and the commitment of staff to constantly review and improve their curriculum areas.



Road Safety

Our recent Ofsted inspection made reference to the comprehensive programme of work our children receive to support their personal safety. From Online Safety Day, Water Safety Week and First Aid training, as well as work on healthy lifestyles including drug and alcohol awareness; there can be no doubt that there is a huge emphasis on keeping safe. As we are situated on Berry Lane with a high volume of traffic passing school every day, our Pupil Forum have recently done some work to highlight the importance of road safety. They produced this amazing banner to display outside school to remind people to drive carefully and be considerate of other road users.



End of Year Performances



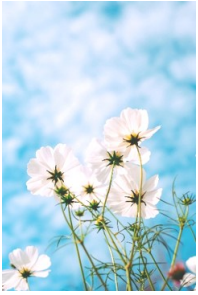
KS2 helped us to have a very positive end to the academic year by putting on two incredible shows for us. Years 3 and 4 put their singing skills into practice following their lessons with Mr Spencer and produced an afternoon of entertainment with a football theme, at a time when we were all enjoying the World Cup.

Years 5 and 6 performed 'Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies.' This production was a really big ask for 10 and 11 year olds, but Mrs Ingram had complete faith in the children's skills and, although this was not an easy piece to perform, the acting, singing and dancing was incredible. We also uncovered one or two comedy geniuses!



SCHOOL NEWS continued

Worship this term



'Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.' (James 1, 17)



This term's School Worship will be centred on gratitude. Although not one of our formally adopted Christian Values, we will be exploring gratitude and giving thanks as we celebrate Harvest in the early part of the term.

Eco Corner September

September is the beginning of the ecumenical Season of Creation. The theme for 2026 is 'Living Water'.

After a hot dry summer, with many regions of the United Kingdom and Europe experiencing drought, wildfires and poor harvests, this theme could not be more relevant.

The Season of Creation is a time to renew our relationship with God and all Creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment. This season invites Christians to pray and act together for our common home, an approach which strengthens our shared commitment to care for Creation and live out our calling as its caretakers.

Two dates open and close the Season of Creation: Tuesday the 1st of September and Sunday the 4th of October. There will be two global events taking place online: September 1: Season of Creation Opening Prayer Service with global faith leaders (2.00 pm GMT). Join here: [September 1st: Prayer Service for Creation Day - Season of Creation](#)

October 4: Season of Creation Closing Event with youth voices from around the globe (2:00 pm GMT). Join here: [October 4: Season of Creation Closing Prayer Service on St. Francis Day - Season of Creation](#)

More practically, even when the current shortages end, what are the best ways to look after this precious resource which is so often taken for granted?

Top tips to save water

1. Spend less time in the shower
2. Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth
3. Reuse water from washing dishes, vegetables etc.
4. Get a water butt to collect rainwater
5. Fill the kettle with less water
6. Use full loads for your washing machine and dishwasher
7. Maintain your appliances
8. Use the shower instead of the bath
9. Use water saving devices

For more information about this, use this link: [Nine popular water saving tips – suggested by you - Energy Saving Trust](#)

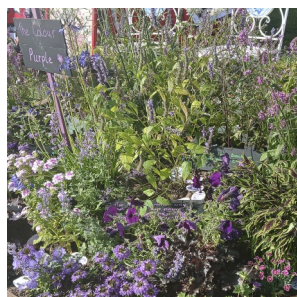
If you are interested in helping our church to have a better environmental impact, please come along to our next **Stewardship Action Group meeting at 7:30pm on Tuesday 6th October at St. Paul's church.**



Say it with Flowers – Donna Rowe Green

Say it with Flowers.....if you are old enough (and I certainly am) you will recognise this as the marketing strategy of InterFlora. For those of you that are younger, this is how we sent flowers all over the country before the internet!

This summer, as part of my role with Rosemary and Time, we 'said it with flowers' at Chorley Flower Show. The theme of the community gardens at the show this year was Hollywood Blockbusters, so we chose 'The Colour Purple' as our film. Purple is the international colour of dementia, and we used this twist to tell the story of our members and the wider dementia community. We created a garden



of different shaped purple flowers, leaves, stems and seed pods, highlighting that everyone who has dementia is individual, not defined by their diagnosis. More importantly we had 2 chairs within the garden, representing the person with dementia and their loved ones. Underneath these chairs were bright, multi coloured flowers, reminding us all that the person is still there, shining out from the challenges of dementia, if you look hard enough.

This plot was made by so many people – 30 year 1 children joined our Friday Friends group to paint pebbles to be scattered amongst the flowers, people from our gardening group created bird feeders to make up part of our backdrop,

reminding us that people with dementia still have the capacity to nurture others. We also asked people visiting the show to write messages of encouragement and advice on little plaques that we hung up in the plot, and then shared with our members afterwards, giving them a tangible piece of love to take home.

There were about 20 gardens created and I must admit, on day one I thought we had no chance of winning anything as the others were so inventive, lots of props and imagination. Ours was a simple collection of plants. However, we won a gold medal, and more importantly lots of people stopped to talk, share their stories and seek help and advice.

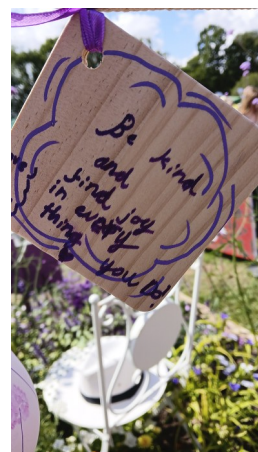
So why am I telling you all this? Well firstly, because I believe we can share so much comfort, inspiration and love with flowers. But it also made me think of prayer. So often,

when we are asked to pray for someone or a situation in church, I struggle a little. I wonder how God will hear my prayer when so many other folk are talking to Him. How much difference will my voice make if everyone else is already on the case? Well, this garden would not have delivered such a strong message if only one person had been involved. It worked because we all did a little bit and it came together as gentle but moving and resounding support for anyone touched by dementia.

It also didn't matter that our garden looked different to the other plots, all of which were stunning and creative.

There was a place for every kind of garden, and there is a place for every kind of prayer. So, no matter how simple your prayers are, you will be heard. And if we have the opportunity to add our voice to a collective prayer, it will make a difference.

I would just like to thank all of you that have been offering to fund the flowers on a week that is special to you, we really hope that we do you and your loved ones proud. Thank you so much.



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Friday Friends

Meeting 11 am – 1.30 pm every Friday at Saar's Café in Longridge Hub, (near Anji's)

After a successful first year, Friday Friends seems to be thriving. Our group was formed to reach out to people who are feeling lonely or isolated (for any reason). We welcome people from all backgrounds, young and old, male and female, regardless of their race or beliefs. Some just stay for a tea or coffee, some of us stay for lunch as well. An added bonus are the occasional days out together. Friendships have blossomed and we are becoming firm friends, not just on Fridays. Our café proprietor, Nilhi, serves deliciously healthy food. Situated near Sainsbury's and Anji's, it's ideally placed for the weary shopper to be refreshed, at affordable prices too. There is also an excellent gift shop in The Hub, where Sandra makes and sells bespoke gifts. And, of course, there are the extremely talented Mimi and her granddaughter, making beautiful home and garden ornaments.



If you are curious, do come and join us. We'd love to meet you.

OPEN THE BOOK

Here we are at the beginning of another school year. We have missed the children during their Summer holidays; and, of course, our leavers have now moved on to High School. Some we may never see again, but we hope they have benefitted from our visits. As each pupil moves up to the next class, we look forward to meeting the new children starting in the reception class as well.



We have many more Bible stories lined up, which we will practice in between our school visits. We aim to make these stories simple and fun for them, in the hope that they will have a positive impact on them (and us!) for life.

If you are interested in joining our Open the Book team, either doing props, simple scenery making, wardrobe or storytelling, please talk to Rev Mike.

TUESDAY CLUB

The Tuesday Club will return in September with a full and interesting program. Copies of this are available in both churches, please take one and see what delights are on offer for 2026/2027.

The first meeting on 8th September at 7.30pm will be an illustrated talk and slide show by Brambles Wildlife Rescue, a local voluntary organisation caring for injured birds and wildlife.

Refreshments as usual afterwards.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible for what will be some very interesting Tuesday evenings.

The modest annual subscription can be paid on the night.

St. Lawrence Flower Rota for June.

SEPTEMBER.

6th Birthday memories of Maureen McDonnell

13th & 20th Vacant

27th In memory of Robert Hodgson

St. Paul's Flower Rota

September—Bev. Keating & Pam Shepherd



Brigade News

National Band Tour

The National Band were delighted to head off on tour this year, with several of our members taking part. The tour began at Raywell, where the band held their usual weekend of final rehearsals, including marching practice.

After a final chippy tea and a game of "Tetris" to fit all the equipment onto the coach, the band set off early the next morning for Belgium.

One of the first visits was to Tyne Cot Cemetery, the largest Commonwealth war cemetery in the world. Nearly 12,000 soldiers who lost their lives during the First World War are buried there, many of them unidentified, while the memorial walls bear the names of almost 35,000 more who have no known grave. Standing among the rows of white headstones was a moving and humbling experience and a powerful reminder of the sacrifices made during the war.

In Ypres, the band had the honour of performing at the Menin Gate during the Last Post Ceremony. The memorial commemorates more than 54,000 British and Commonwealth soldiers who died in the Ypres Salient and have no known grave. Performing in such a historic and meaningful setting was a real highlight of the tour.

There was also plenty of time for fun and sightseeing. The band enjoyed a day at Walibi Theme Park and performed at the Three Countries Maze at Drielandenpunt, where Belgium, Germany and the Netherlands meet. Sharing music and entertainment with visitors from around the world made this a particularly special occasion.

The band then travelled to Aachen, where they performed at the Rotunde am Elisenbrunnen, one of the city's most recognisable landmarks. They also had the opportunity to explore the city and visit the beautiful Hoensbroek Castle.

The final performance of the tour took place at Onze Lieve Vrouweplein in Maastricht, surrounded by the beautiful setting of one of the city's most iconic squares.

The tour was a wonderful mix of music, history, sightseeing and fun, bringing together performances, laughter and friendship. It was a memorable experience for everyone involved and one that will be remembered for years to come.



Church Lads'
& Church Girls'
BRIGADE



Congratulations Rosie

We're very pleased to congratulate our wonderful Rosie Williams who graduated from the University of York over the summer with a BSc in Psychology- we are very proud of all her achievements and look forward to seeing what the next chapter has in store for her.



Brigade News continued

Eyes down for a Cause

On Saturday 15th August, we held our second Eyes Down for a Cause bingo afternoon, organised in memory of our wonderful Janet.

Janet's daughter, Emma, worked tirelessly to put together a fantastic afternoon, filled with fun, laughter and plenty of prizes. We were delighted to raise over £1,200, which will be donated to St Catherine's Hospice and CLCGB Longridge.

It was especially lovely to see Janet's husband, Steve, calling the bingo numbers again this year. The afternoon also featured face painting and a fun Mamma Mia theme, making it a memorable occasion for everyone who attended.

We are incredibly grateful to all the local businesses who supported the event and generously donated prizes. Your kindness and generosity mean so much, particularly as the afternoon was held in memory of our much-loved Janet.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the afternoon such a success. Janet's memory continues to bring people together, and we are so grateful to everyone who helped us celebrate her in such a special way.



Welcome to the Crafty Cafe, a friendly hub - Helen Bailey

I would like to introduce you to an open door cafe on the last Monday afternoon of the month, although it doesn't operate in December. During the hot spell we've experienced this summer it's been a cool place to be; whilst in the cold weather it's warm. It's open to anyone who fancies a couple of hours to meet friends, have a chat, enjoy a brew and biscuits (sometimes cakes appear), plus you're welcome to bring any portable craft which keeps you busy. I certainly enjoy a chat whilst knitting. It is not essential to craft, companionship is the most important ingredient.

Our next meetings are: Mondays 28 September, 26 October, 30 November.



Walkie Talkie's



Would like to invite any grandparents, carers, child minders and parents to join us at our lovely friendly toddler group on Thursday afternoons.

Walkie talkies is a small and friendly group where anyone looking after a toddler or baby is welcome to come along and enjoy a selection of toys, from the wooden kitchen and house area to the soft play, we have lots of different push along toys to play with also a special baby area and

most importantly have a chance to catch up with everyone over a drink and a biscuit.

We are open every Thursday afternoon - term time from 1.30 till 3.00pm in the Centenary Room at St. Paul's come in through the side door from the car park.



All things bright and beautiful – brought to us by Malcolm Welch.

Have you ever told a stranger “I’m a Christian”? During the summer I was indulging one of my main passions and visiting a favourite nature reserve. I got into conversation with a member of staff as we both watched a majestic Osprey return to its nest with a fish to feed its chicks. Nearer at hand tiny but beautiful Dragonflies were buzzing in the reeds. We got talking about how all nature is interdependent on each other, how it evolved and how each has its own specific role in the natural world. I made my usual comment that no human being could ever design anything as beautiful or as complex as this. My companion looked at me with interest. I said “I am a Christian and believe that however it came to be, God had a hand in it.” My companion’s face lit up and she said “I am a Christian too”. We enjoyed a good 20 minutes of conversation about our experiences of nature and God. When we parted it felt as if we had been lifelong friends.



Recently on a different nature reserve I was struck by the words boldly emblazoned on the sweater of middle aged lady. **“Prayer is the world’s greatest form of wireless communication”**. It led me to having an enjoyable few minutes conversation with her and her friends.

A few weeks earlier I had spent my usual holiday in a fairly remote area on the west coast of Scotland. Whilst the area is undoubtedly beautiful I find that I can absorb myself in a world that is less dominated by man and one a bit closer to how God created it. A world where local people respect the natural world and work with it, acknowledging they cannot control the power of the wind and rainstorms that sweep the area from time to time. A world where some unseen power brings changes in the seasons and the sea rises and falls in the loch twice every day without fail. The owner of the cottage where I stay has learned that by leaving part of his grass uncut it suddenly blooms with masses of wildflowers, eminently more beautiful than a precisely manicured lawn. Personally I enjoy the colourful orchids springing up everywhere. I quickly become absorbed in the



wildlife, be it the massive Sea Eagles flying down the loch, the seals and pups lying out on the rocks down in the bay or the mother Pine Marten bringing her two kits to feed near my window.

It is not surprising then that the owner of the

holiday cottages who also lives on site happens to be an ordained Anglican priest who is now (separately from the holiday cottages) offering religious retreats. In his words *“Here you can take time away from the busyness of life to seek refreshment in the Lord Jesus”*. For more information this is his website: www.thewayofthebeloved

Although having never sought a retreat I have enjoyed a number of interesting conversations with him and his wife. I always return home tired but mentally refreshed from my stay in the area. I remind myself that living in Longridge there are a number of places within a short travelling distance where by encompassing the God given natural world we can spend a few hours *“away from the busyness of life to seek refreshment in the Lord Jesus.”*



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From our Organist & Choir Director – Karen Au

It has been a while since I last wrote a Log article. Despite the *Choir Break* in August, it has been a fairly busy summer for me in terms of working behind the scenes to try to raise the profile of our musical tradition at Longridge and our wonderful Father Willis organ. I've spoken with Stewart Whillis (organist of Hurst Green and committee member of the Preston District Organist Association) to try to arrange a member's recital for the PDOA members. This event will attract local organists of different abilities who will be able to appreciate our historic instrument at St. Paul's, and also a good opportunity to advertise any fundraising concerts/recitals for the organ.



Another interesting conversation has been with Matthew Atherton from St. Mary's College at Stonyhurst. Stonyhurst College has now a number of organ pupils, but a rather limiting organ to practice repertoire on. Therefore, Mr. Atherton has suggested organising a pupil's recital at St. Paul's in order that they might experience a quintessential English instrument. These grand schemes may seem exciting but are just the cherry on the cake compared with the real purpose behind the music making at Longridge, which is to deliver a high standard of music during Sunday worship.

In order to maintain the quality of liturgical music, I have resurrected the August Open Choir Scheme, which has had moderate success with a few people showing interest in joining the choir. St. Lawrence's Voices (children's singing scheme) has had very little response at all, but Jayden who attends our Sunday morning services, has been a super sport and made excellent progress on both singing and the organ during our sessions this summer.

We are here to support and listen to you.

Open to everyone who is bereaved whether your loss is recent or years ago.

Receive emotional support in a safe and relaxed environment.

Meet with others in a similar situation.

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Bereavement SUPPORT GROUP

on the first Monday of every month including bank holidays from 7.30pm to 9pm

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FUNERALS

**We commend to God those who have died recently and pray
for those who mourn their loss**

Michael Arnold Turver

Leslie Bowker



WEDDINGS

Many congratulations and our very best wishes to:
Kai Ian Wells and Emily Rebekah Thornber, who were married on
Friday 24th July 2026 in St. Lawrence's Church.



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Old Vicarage Garden Party 2026



Successful Parish Garden Party

Looking back to the 5th July we shared a lovely afternoon at the Old Vicarage – Graham had kindly organised a large open gazebo in case of rain and it came in handy, as the day was quite breezy – certainly not the heatwave of recent weeks. The children had a great time on the bouncy castle and joining in the activities Andrew and Becky Filder had kindly arranged and the rest of us enjoyed the opportunity to sit and chat and enjoy the wonderful assortment of cakes – with the odd glass of Pimm's going down a treat!

Our thanks to Graham for once again inviting us to his home.

WELCOME CAFÉ — Steph, Karen and the team

September the 9th will see the return of the Welcome Cafe after the summer break. We are open on a Wednesday afternoon from 3pm to 5pm during term time. For only 50p we offer hot and cold drinks, cakes, jacket potatoes and a weekly changing meal on the menu. Everyone is welcome to attend. There is usually a domino game for the older attendees, table games, Lego and a craft for the younger ones (although all are welcome to do the craft). If you are feeling lonely or just fancy dropping in for a cuppa to see what we do please be assured you will get a warm welcome. If your child is in Year 6 or above and would like to attend without a carer we have a form that needs filling in first which is available from Karen or myself - unfortunately children younger than year 6 do need to have an adult with them.

We look forward to seeing you all on Wednesday 9th September.

Travels with Dorothy Laver - Tyntesfield: a Victorian Gothic Revival house built on wealth from guano

As a birthday present a few years ago my elder son Alex paid for membership of the National Trust for me and very kindly he now renews it for me annually. There are not many of their properties in Lancashire so when I go away in my caravan I look to see if there are any National Trust properties in the area I am visiting. This year I have been to Fountains Abbey near Knaresborough, Chirk Castle near Wrexham, Sissinghurst Castle Garden in Kent and Batemans in East Sussex, the former home of Rudyard Kipling the author and poet.

In early August I joined my younger son, wife and grandson in an Airbnb they had booked near Wells in Somerset. I set off from Grimsargh on a Friday afternoon and after taking four hours to cover 125 miles! I reached my overnight stop in Droitwich. (Lesson learnt that the M6 on a Friday in the school summer holidays is best avoided). The benefit of travelling on the Friday however was that I had time to visit a National Trust property called Tyntesfield near Bristol on the Saturday morning before checking in to the Airbnb in the afternoon. The extensive Tyntesfield country estate was acquired by the National Trust in 2002 complete with a collection of over 72,000 objects.

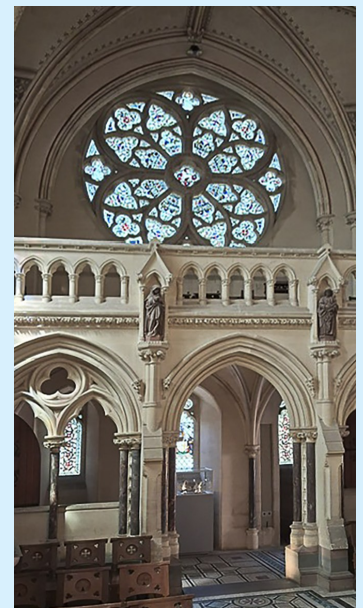
In 1843 William Gibbs and his young wife Blanche purchased a Georgian country house called Tyntes Place for their growing family. William Gibbs was born in Madrid and joined his father's business importing British cloth into Spain and exporting Spanish wine and fruit to Britain. The business expanded into South America and signed an exclusive contract with the Peruvian government to export guano (seabird droppings) to Europe. The guano was marketed as a miraculous new fertiliser that could boost farmers' harvests and profits. The population boom after the Industrial Revolution meant farmers were under pressure to produce more food. The guano was extracted mainly from the Chincha islands by indigenous Peruvians and later by indentured Chinese labourers working in terrible conditions. William Gibbs' amassed an enormous fortune.

William and Blanche used their guano fortune to rebuild the house they had bought in the Gothic Revival style. This style was inspired by late medieval religious art and architecture. They hired the finest craftspeople doubling the size of the original house and adding a library, drawing room and a conservatory. The Gibbs were enthusiastic collectors often buying religious art work on trips abroad including a portrait of Saint Lawrence which now hangs on the stairs.

Travels with Dorothy Laver continued

The Gibbs were devout Anglicans and the family motto was "In God my refuge and hope." They supported the Oxford Movement whose supporters wanted their churches to encourage deep worship through awe-inspiring beauty. In the 1870s the Gibbs embarked on building a private chapel with a stained glass rose window inspired by a royal chapel in Paris. William died in 1875 just before the chapel was finished. Morning and evening prayers and Holy Communion were said daily but the chapel was never consecrated so the family are not buried there. Blanche continued until she died with improvements to the estate and philanthropic works contributing to the construction of churches and a local hospital.

The family fortunes declined after the Second World War and many rooms fell into disrepair. The Gibbs family lived at Tyntesfield until 2001 when Richard Gibbs who had no children died. The house and estate by then required major remedial work and the beneficiaries sold the estate to the National Trust who were able to buy it with grants and public donations. Since then there has been an extensive conservation and repair programme and garden restoration which is continuing. Worth a detour on a journey to Devon and Cornwall to see this masterpiece.



BAPTISM

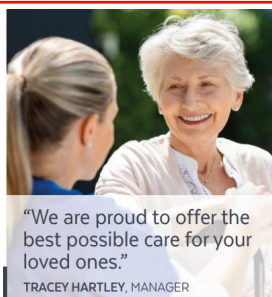
We congratulate and pray for those who have been recently Baptised into our Church family:

Annie Jane Dewhurst - was Baptised on 19th July 2026 at St. Paul's Church



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OUR WORSHIP AND READINGS

Following Jesus on Mission

Our regular Sunday 'in church' services are as below.

St Paul's Holy Communion Service with Children's Church at 10:00am (arrival from 9:30am)

St. Paul's 'All together' Service 10:00am on 2nd Sunday of the Month

St Lawrence's at 6:30pm (arrival from 6:00pm)

The readings that will feature in these services are listed below.

Our regular mid-week Holy Communion Service takes place on Thursday at St Paul's at 10am

6th September — Trinity 14 'Before Abraham was, I am' (Baptism Service)

10am St Paul's Holy communion with Children's Church

Exodus 3 : 1-14

John 8 : 50-58

6:30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Psalms 108

Exodus 3 : 1-14

John 8 : 50-58

13th September - Trinity 15 — 'Come and Discover'

8am St Lawrence's Holy Communion BCP

10am St Paul's All Age Worship

Isaiah 55 : 1-3

John 21: 1-13

'Come & See-Messy Mission'
St. Pauls Church 4:00-5:30pm

'Come and Sing Along'

6.30pm St Lawrence's—Songs of Praise

Isaiah 55 : 1-3

John 21: 1-13

20th September - Trinity 16

10am St Paul's Holy communion with Children's Church

Exodus 16: 2-15

Matthew 20 : 1-16

'The 4'

St. Pauls Church

4:00-4:45pm

6:30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Psalms 119 v 121-128

Exodus 16: 2-15

Matthew 20 : 1-16

27th September — Trinity 17

10am St Paul's Holy communion with Children's Church

Exodus 17: 1-7

Matthew 21 : 23-32

'The 4'

St. Pauls Church

4:00-4:45pm

6:30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Psalms 124

Exodus 17: 1-7

Matthew 21 : 23-32

4th October — Trinity 18

10am St Paul's Holy communion with Children's Church

Exodus 20 : 1-20

Matthew 21 : 33-46

'The 4'

St. Pauls Church

4:00-4:45pm

6:30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Psalms 136

Exodus 20 : 1-20

Matthew 21 : 33-46

The Last Word by Rev. Jess Adesina continued

Lord Jesus, I have been invited to come and see You. I may not fully understand everything, but today I choose to put my trust in You and follow You. Save me, forgive me, help me and mould me. Lead me into Your purpose and plan for my life, and teach me to walk with You. Amen.

If you have prayed this prayer, or if you simply want to know more about Jesus, please speak to Rev Mike or myself. We would love to talk and pray with you. You are also warmly invited to join us at any of our services. Come as you are, meet others who are on this journey of faith, and together let us discover more of what it means to follow Jesus.

And to those who already know Him, perhaps there is one person God is placing on your heart today. Give them the invitation.

You never know what God might do with three simple words:

Come and see.

Jesus is Lord!

The Log The Last Word

From the Curate Rev. Jesse Adesina



Come and See In 1934, a young man named Albert McMakin invited a teenage farm boy to attend a Christian meeting. He could not have known what would happen as a result. He certainly could not have imagined that the young man he invited would one day preach the gospel to millions of people around the world. The teenager's name was Billy Graham.

Albert did not have to have all the answers. He did not need to be the preacher. He simply had to make the invitation.

There is extraordinary power in a simple invitation.

We see something similar in John 1:45-46. Philip has encountered Jesus and is convinced that he has found the One for whom Israel has been waiting. Excitedly, he goes to Nathanael and tells him about Jesus of Nazareth.

Nathanael is not convinced. "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" he asks. Philip could have argued with him. He could have tried to answer every objection. Instead, he offers three simple words: "Come and see."

Perhaps those three words still describe one of the most important things the Church can say today.

Come and see.

Come and see who Jesus is.

Come and see a community where you are welcome.

Come and see what happens when ordinary people worship, pray and journey together.

Come and see whether this Jesus whom we have encountered might have something for you too.

And perhaps, for those of us who already know Jesus, the challenge is even simpler: Who could you invite?

Albert McMakin could never have known what God would do with his invitation. Neither do we. Billy Graham went on to become one of the most influential evangelists of his generation, but it began with someone simply inviting him to come.

Sometimes the invitation we think is small may be the beginning of something far greater than we could ever imagine.

So, if you are reading this and you are still sitting on the fence, perhaps you have heard about Jesus but have never really given Him a chance, I want to extend that same invitation to you:

Come and see.

Come and see the Jesus who has given us hope and the assurance of eternal life. Come and see the One who gives purpose and meaning to our lives.

Come and see the same Jesus who changed my life.

You may not understand everything about Christianity. You may still have questions. Nathanael had questions too. You do not have to have everything worked out before you begin. Just come.

Come and see whether this Jesus whom we have encountered might have something for you. I know He has.

And if today you would like to respond to that invitation and begin following Jesus, you can pray:

Continues on page 27

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