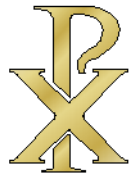




GREASBROUGH UNITED CHURCH



August 2017

Be on watch

It seems to have been a busy time of the last few weeks, but that's maybe because having been on holiday, getting back to doing ordinary things is a bit of a chore.



It is in ordinary things, however, that we see, feel and hear the magnificence of our Lord's creation.

The fields are standing full and golden awaiting the harvesters, the apples on the trees are getting bigger each day and the vegetable harvest is a joy.

We live in a beautiful part of the world and yet we still find amongst all that is good, those who would ruin everything by their evil ways.

I'm sure we have all been saddened and disgusted by mindless acts of those responsible for acid attacks. What makes someone want to ruin another person's life by maiming with acid?

The need for prayer is urgent, we need to be watchful and alert at all times, we cannot let our guard down.

When Paul wrote to the Galatians and instructed them to put on the whole armour of God, he could have been writing to us today.

So enjoy the rest of the summer, soak up the wonders of the Lord's creation and give thanks at all times for His goodness and mercy.

Pat

Be alert, be on watch! Your enemy, the Devil, roams around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. Be firm in your faith and resist him.

1 Peter 5:8-9a

News

As some of you may know our minister Rev Simon is now on holiday in the Everglades in the USA and we do hope that he and Judith have a good time and return refreshed after their break. He will be back on the 15th August but if a pressing matter arises that cannot wait for his return, then would you please contact an elder who will ensure that help is found for you.

You will be pleased to know that £120 has been collected for our missionary project to help Andrea through his schooling. If you have not yet given towards this worthy cause and would like to, then it is not too late, please just give your donation to Martyn.



While on holiday in Lake Como, Italy, Pat and I had the pleasure of attending a service at the Church of the Ascension at Cadenabbia. This is a church run by a few English speaking residents and visiting clergy and organists from around the world who give of their time freely while staying on Lake Como. The service was led by Rev Roger Williams from Australia, the organist was Terry Woollen

from the USA and refreshments were served by an American lady. The service was a very friendly and warm gathering with a great loving message. This church receives no financial help from the Diocese in London or elsewhere.

How uplifting to see how a small group of people with the desire to do God's work can provide such a haven for believers and to spread God's message.

Jean

May the road rise up to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
The rains fall soft upon your fields,
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Old Gaelic Blessing

Prayer this month

We ask that you pray for:

- Harmony in Brexit discussions;
- Political stability in the USA.



WORDSEARCH



The Roman Empire

Find these words in the grid above. The words may be in any direction – forwards, backwards, upwards, downwards or diagonal. After you have found all the words, use the leftover letters to form a mystery answer.

Answer: _ _ _ _ _

- | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| Africa | Crucifixion | Latin | Provinces |
| Arabia | Cyprus | Military | Rebellion |
| Augustus | Debauchery | Nero | Religion |
| Authority | Despotism | Octavian | Rome |
| Britain | Diocletian | Pagan | Romulus |
| Claudius | Imperial | Palestine | Soldiers |
| Constantine | Jerusalem | Paul | Syria |
| Corruption | Jews | Persecution | Taxation |
| | Judea | Phoenicia | |

Moments in time

What do we do with the moments we save
As we rush through the course of the day?
If we dash to the post, or run for a bus,
Cut corners along all the way.

Will the minutes we save add up to an hour
To be used later on? No, alas,
Moments are fleeting, and time doesn't wait
But goes on, and life's days and years pass.

At the side of a loved one who's ill,
When we know the time they have left is not long,
The minutes drag by as we hold a dear hand,
And try, for their sake, to be strong.

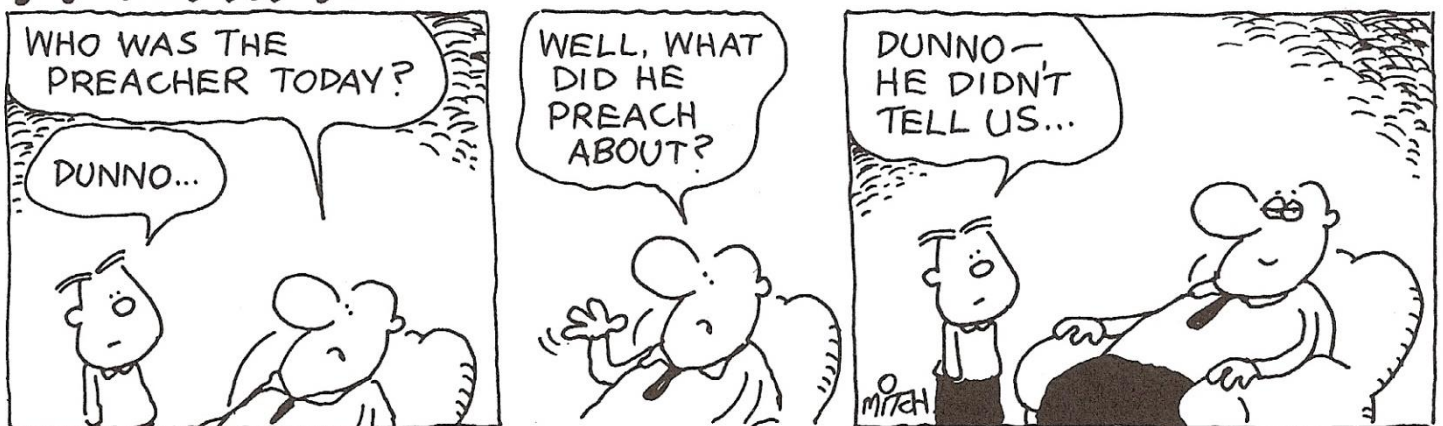
But at holiday times, when we're carefree and gay,
Time flies as we laugh and have fun,
We wonder just where all the moments have gone,
They seem ended before they've begun.

So what can we do to even things out?
Can we measure the time, fast or slow,
So we're not always rushing, and trying to catch
Up the moments we lose as we go

Time is God-given. The best we can do
Is to come to Him each new day
And ask him to fill every moment in time
With his peace, as we go on our way.

Anon

PILGRIMS...



Give him a hand

Little Johnny was spending the weekend with his grandmother after a particularly trying week in kindergarten. His grandmother decided to take him to the park on Saturday morning. It had been snowing all night and everything was beautiful.

His grandmother remarked, "Doesn't it look like an artist painted this scenery? Did you know God painted this just for you?"

Johnny said, "Yes, God did it and he did it left handed."

This confused his grandmother a bit, and she asked him, "What makes you say God this with his left hand?"

"Well," said Johnny, "we learned at Sunday school last week that Jesus sits on God's right hand!"



Sunday Services

Held at 10.30am every Sunday.

Preachers

6 th Aug	Rev Barbara Savage
13 th Aug	Peter Drabble
20 th Aug	Morag Walder
27 th Aug	Rev Simon Copley

Friendship Group

Held at 2.00pm every Wednesday.

Speakers

2 nd Aug	Open meeting
9 th Aug	No meeting
16 th Aug	Rev Brenda Hill
23 rd Aug	Rev Simon Copley
30 th Aug	Open meeting
6 th Sep	Rev Jenny Park

What's on

Nursing home services –
17th Aug @ 2.00pm

Bible study and prayer group

These are held at 34 Green Street on Tuesday mornings at 10.00am and are a valuable time of learning and sharing God's Word. It is a very relaxed gathering and all are welcome.

Contact us

If you would like to know anything about the church please contact:

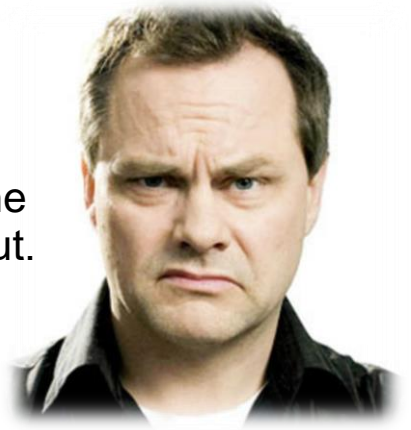
- Rev Simon Copley (01709 814471)
- Phil Critchlow (01709 555704)

Email: Greasbrough.United.Church@sky.com

Website: www.greasbroughunitedchurch.org.uk

Who's who: Jack Dee

Jack Dee is a stand-up comedian, actor and writer known for his sarcasm and deadpan humour. He calls himself a *believer* but not a Christian; before he took up comedy he actually considered becoming a priest, but it didn't work out.



In his autobiography "**Thanks for nothing**" he recounts his time at school when he was picked on by one of his teachers. This teacher would make the young Dee stand on a chair and then say things like 'Dee by name, D by nature.' The rest of the class would laugh and point.

I made a decision to get them ... After a couple of weeks, when all the fuss had died down, I began my vendetta. ... I would walk into a classroom during break, for example, and if one of the boys from my little blacklist was there, unattended by any members of staff, I'd simply walk up to him and, before he could say 'What do you want?', punch him in the face. Sometimes that would be that; sometimes a second or third punch might be called for. At other times they'd hit back and a full fight would ensue. Because many of them were bigger than me, I was occasionally overwhelmed and beaten, but it didn't stop me continuing down that list.

The more people I attacked, the angrier and more isolated I became. It was like a fire that had started inside me. I really hated fighting people and hurting them, but felt unable to stop. I was on a mission. Deep down I knew that it was wrong and that punching them wasn't the answer. It was almost worse that I didn't get caught or reported. ...

How this campaign of violence ended is as odd as the way it started.

Being in the shadow of Winchester Cathedral, and Pilgrims' being the school of its world-class choir, the Christmas carol service was always of an incredibly high standard. I loved visiting the cathedral. It had a powerful atmosphere that was hard to ignore. Perhaps it was the deliberately awe-inspiring architecture at work or the visible history of worn stone steps, tombs and plaques. Perhaps it was something else.

That year as we filed into the pews for the service, I felt completely wretched and friendless. I had a horrible feeling of not belonging, of being in some way unworthy to be there in the cathedral. Even the carols, written to lift the heart with good news, had the effect of deepening my despondency.

During one of the readings, my mind wandered and I started to stare at a large statue of Christ on the cross. I remember wanting to look away but being unable to. At the same time I became aware of a sensation of complete tranquility, a feeling that I was cherished by God and that everything would be alright.