



The Methodist Church

Bishopston, Easter Compton, Horfield, Shirehampton Methodist Churches and St Peter's Pilning.

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We are part of the Bristol and South Gloucestershire Circuit (www.bsgc.org.uk), a family of churches serving communities across the local area.

God's table is open to all

Sunday 11 September 2022



This introduction was inspired by Kim, who worships at Horfield Methodist.

Kim lives on her own in a flat. She supports all the activities at Horfield but in her spare time, she volunteers at Moggery, a cat charity. Moggery is situated in Bishopston and one of its functions is as a rehoming centre-finding homes for homeless cats. The charity is run solely by volunteers. This year it celebrates its 25th Anniversary.

We all interact with animals in some way. Kim delights in helping with the cats. We have dogs who attend our services and who are welcomed as part of the church family. People enjoy watching the birds and encouraging wildlife into their gardens.

Humans have always had a bond with animals. The human-animal bond is a mutually beneficial and dynamic relationship between people and animals that is influenced by behaviours essential to the health and wellbeing of both. This includes, among other things, emotional, psychological, and physical interactions of people, animals, and the environment.

Humans have always exhibited a fascination with animals. Ancient cave art in Borneo depicting bovine-type creatures and domestication of animals illustrate how animals have played a significant role in human civilization for thousands of years. While human relationships with animals continue to evolve, there is a wealth of knowledge gathered from the historical and scientific aspects of the human-animal bond.

Within the last few weeks, we have heard how Bristol Zoo has closed and the animals moved to other zoos or to the Wild Place, in Easter Compton. For over 180 years people have visited the zoo to admire the animals and observe their activities. Sometimes the animals observed the visitors! Our knowledge of wild animals and their emotional welfare has shown that we need to reproduce an environment like their natural habitats. These days zoos are valuable for saving species from extinction and returning them to the wild.

God made a covenant not only with Noah and his descendants but also with "every living creature that is with you, the fowl, the cattle, and every beast of the earth with you; of all that go out of the ark, even every beast of the earth." Indeed, God makes no distinction between people and animals. Jesus said, "Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them". (Matthew 6 v26) "And all flesh shall see the salvation of God." (Luke 3 v16).

Prayer

Lord God, when You created the universe, you blessed us with all living creatures. Thank you for the creatures who bring joy to our lives and support the environment. We especially thank you for giving us our pets who are our friends and who bring us so much joy in life. Their presence very often helps us get through trying times. May our pets continue giving us joy and remind us of Your power. May we realize that as our pets trust us to take care of them, so we should trust You to take care of us, and in taking care of them we share in Your love for all creatures. Amen.

WORSHIP DETAILS FOR SUNDAY 11 September and the week

Horfield at 10.00. Rev J. Emmet with All Age Worship and on Zoom.

Christian Believers Fellowship at 12.30. Led by William Carey.

Bishopston at 10.30 conducted by Rev. P. Stonehewer with Holy Communion.

Shirehampton at 11.00. Local Arrangement, All Age Worship.

St Peter's, Pilning and Easter Compton at 10.00. Conducted by V. Davies.

Easter Compton. Wednesday 14 September at 3.00. Reflective Space led by the Ark Team.

OTHER WORSHIP DETAILS for 11 September and the week

Sunday Worship. Radio 4 at 8.10. Freedom of Religion and Belief.

Songs of Praise. BBC 1 at 2.35. 900 Years of Carlisle Cathedral.

Daily Service at 09.45. BBC Radio 4, Long Wave.

St. Peter's, Pilning Open Café Church on 12 September, 10.00 - 12.00, for coffee, tea, cake and chat. Join us in daily prayer: <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-andworship/joinusservice-daily-prayer>

You will also find a **service of Morning Prayer** to cover each day of the week, available from first thing each Monday. More details at <https://westburyparkchurch.org.uk/worship-service>

Cotswold Christian Community - 11 September, 4.45 to 5.30pm, Songs of Praise café at the Community Centre, Dursley Road, BS11 9XH. All welcome.

ALFA Christian Community on 12th September, 10.30-12.30, Quiet Morning at Fulligrove House, Woodwell Road, BS11 9UG. Time to enjoy God's peace and presence in the garden (or summer house). The theme is "Rooted and grounded in love". All welcome - affiliated to the Quiet Garden Movement <https://quietgarden.org>

WORSHIP DETAILS FOR SUNDAY 18 September and the week

Horfield at 10.00. Conducted by D. North.

Christian Believers Fellowship at 12.30. Led by William Carey.

Bishopston at 10.30. Conducted by C. Campion Smith.

Shirehampton at 11.00. Conducted by Rev. P. Stonehewer with Holy Communion.

St Peter's, Pilning and Easter Compton at 10.00. Conducted by the Anglican Team.

Easter Compton. Wednesday 21 September at 3.00. Reflective Space led by the Ark Team.

GENERAL NOTICES. Please send items to Eurfron by Tuesday, eurfron@blueyonder.co.uk or 0117 969 1908

Welcome. On 4 September a service was held at Horfield to welcome Rev. Teddy Kalongo as our new Superintendent Minister and Minister at Westbury-on-Trym. We are looking forward to welcoming Teddy to lead our worship in the future.

ALFA Christian Community - Coffee morning at Fulligrove House, Saturday 17 September, 10.00-12.00 and drop-ins for tea and cakes every Wednesday afternoon, 2.30-4.30. All welcome.

Eden Grove would like to thank all those who joined them for their final service. £518 was donated to the Christian Aid Ukraine appeal.

Currently Available - Support & Information in Bristol. If you or anyone you know need help, please reach out. There is advice, support, and information available across Bristol: *Cost of living support*. Our city will do all we can to support you. You can also volunteer to help.

North Bristol and South Gloucestershire Food Bank. 367 three day emergency food parcels, weighing a total of 11535 kgs were given out in July, which provided support to 812 people. Volunteers are needed. Please contact: volunteering@nbsg.foodbank.org.uk

Saturday 17 September at 10.30. The Methodist Peace Fellowship has undergone a relaunch and is hosting an online open meeting for both members and those who might be interested in becoming members to talk about peace. Explore what peace means and how we can work together to create it. [Register here.](#)

As part of its ongoing work into addressing its Transatlantic Slave Trade legacy, **Bristol Cathedral** is hosting a screening of *After the Flood: The Church, Slavery and Reconciliation* on Thursday 22 September at 6pm. The screening will be followed with a short Q & A session with two members of Clergy, Rev Nic Harris and Rev Jonnie Parkin. It is a ticketed event to ensure we can make a donation to the Movement of Justice and Reconciliation, who have kindly lent us the documentary. More information about the event and tickets can be found here: <https://bristol-cathedral.co.uk/whats-on/after-the-flood>

Move better, Feel better. Do you want to relieve niggling aches and pains? Would you love to move more freely? Would you love to build strength and flexibility so that you can feel great every day? If this sounds like you, I'd love you to try one of my Pilates classes. For a **FREE** **taster class** contact Vicky Woodington at: pilatesactive@outlook.com
*** Limited Spaces Available *** Mixed ability and a 60+ classes held at Horfield Methodist Church plus more!

Horfield and Bishopston. An important part of our discipleship is to pray for our community and one another. This week you are asked to pray for the following and their families: Brian and Sheila Lomas, Maggie Lovell, Hortence Lukaso, Christine, and Dylan Lau.

Horfield. The Harvest Service will be on 25 September. Our special local charities will be Growing Wild and The Bristol Methodist Centre. Please support them generously with money and food.

There is Room is the Methodist Church's 2022 Christmas campaign. It seeks to demonstrate the Methodist Church as an open, welcoming and inclusive place for all. Through the lens of a Methodist Way of Life, it will offer content relevant for today's world, aiming to encourage and support anyone who wants to find out more about Christian faith and the Methodist Church. *Find out more*

Dates for your diary: September 14, Circuit Meeting. September 15, Leadership Meeting (Bishopston and Horfield). September 24, Eco Photographic Exhibition. (Horfield).



Gaming evenings

In August we started early evening game sessions beginning with Dungeons & Dragons. The initial group of 6 has expanded to 10 with more wanting to join. The ages range from 15 to 36 from all areas and backgrounds so it is good to see how they have interacted.

These sessions will continue during school term time and will be expanded to include other dates and time

Psalm 14; Jeremiah 4 : 1 - 11; 1 Timothy 1 : 12 - 17; Luke 15 : 1 - 10

This reflection is provided by Local Preacher, Adam Biddlestone (Zion).

Today is the suggested Sunday to mark as Education Sunday, which seems appropriate at the start of the new school year. One of the priorities for teachers is to build on previous learning, a key way to do this is by rooting new learning in concepts with which children will be familiar. Jesus modelled this in his teaching by using parables that focussed on everyday things with which his listeners would have been familiar. In the parables we read today, he draws on sheep and coins and the human emotion of loss. When observed, teachers are assessed on what the children in their group have learnt, what did they know and what can they do at the end of the lesson that they couldn't do at the start. Learning is reinforced by different examples or scenarios where knowledge can be applied.

The parables Jesus tells here are in direct response to the grumbings of the Pharisees and teachers of the Law that he is welcoming sinners and eating with them. The first parable is of the lost sheep, when just one out of one hundred is lost the shepherd will leave the ninety-nine and go in search of the one missing sheep. When the one missing sheep is found there will be celebration, the shepherd will share the good news with neighbours, in the same way that God will celebrate when one sinner repents, turns away from their sin and to God.

To ensure that learning has taken place, that there has been a change in attitude and mind, Jesus reinforces his teaching with a second parable. This time of a woman who has ten coins but loses one of them. She searches the house until it is found and like the shepherd who finds his missing sheep, celebrates and shares the good news with neighbours, in the same way that angels celebrate when one sinner repents, turns away from their sin and to God.

The shepherd and woman still have so much, even with one missing sheep and a missing coin, yet they go off searching for the one that is missing. In the case of the shepherd, there is a greater risk involved as he leaves his ninety-nine sheep in the open country and goes searching for the one sheep. How long will his searching last? Could he not return and find more sheep have gone missing in his absence?

To the shepherd each sheep is an individual, special, of value. To God each human being, created in his image and likeness, is an individual, special, of value. So, God rejoices when just one of those people finds Him and He finds them, turns to Christ and accepts him as their Lord and Saviour. Rejoicing for God is not a one off, for everyday across the globe men and women, one by one, are repenting and turning to Him. Day by day, one by one, God is welcoming his sheep into the great heavenly sheepfold and the whole company of saints and angels rejoices with Him!!

Prayer

Loving God, at the start of a new school year we pray for our local schools, for teachers, staff and governors, for children and their families, for those starting new phases in their education and those changing schools. Bless and guide all who teach and all who learn. Amen.

Our thanks to Adam for this reflection



**Eco Coffee Morning
& Photographic
Exhibition**

Sat 24th Sept, 10 - 12

**Featuring photos by
people of all ages from
the local community,
highlighting the
beauty of the
world around us**



**and issues
relating to
climate change**

www.horfieldmethodist.org.uk