

The Parochial Church Council (PCC)

For 2021 – 2022 the PCC consists of Churchwardens Derek and Suzanne Boulton, Treasurer Jane Woodman, Secretary Suzanne Boulton. Other members are Judith Eckersley, Mark Shipley and Cynthia Smith. Rev Simon Dunn is Chairman. The team clergy are also members. Electoral roll officer is Mary Clarke.

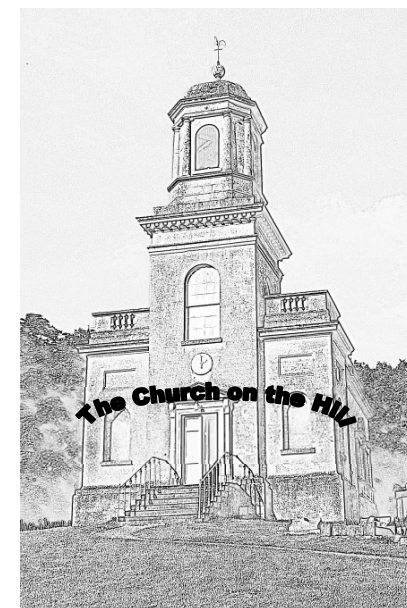
Greenways Group of Churches

St. Nicholas News July 2021

The Rt Rev Maurice Wood (1916-2007)

Bishop Maurice Wood prayer seems appropriate for Hardenhuish:

“Make us like a city set on a hill whose light cannot be hidden; so that men and women and children may find Christ as the light of the world, and his church as the family of the redeemed, and eternal life as the gift of God, through Jesus Christ our Lord”



Sunday	4th July	10.30am	Come Together at St. Peters, Langley Burrell
Sunday	11th July	4 p.m.	Come and Praise with Communion
Sunday	25th July	4 p.m.	Come and Praise

Contact Details

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Ministry Musings

Hello - did you know that God has a telephone number? (At least, that's what I call it!) Jeremiah chapter 33 : 3 (or Jeremiah 333) is worth remembering. God says to us "Call to me and I will answer you". And if we continue the conversation with Him He says He will tell us wonderful and marvellous things that we know nothing about (*Good News Bible*).

This is what Jesus is talking about in John chapter 15 when He speaks about remaining in Him –that is – keeping in touch with Him regularly. If we want our faith to grow, blossom and bear fruit, we need to keep the communication lines open with Him all the time.

In challenging times He is there, as our guide; He is our rock when we need strength and encouragement (Psalm 46 : 1 - 3). When we need rest and peace of mind He is there alongside us (Matthew 11 : 28, 29). Zephaniah 3 : 17 is a favourite verse of mine. It reads "*The Lord God is with you, He is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing*".

Amazing – God – the Almighty Creator of the universe, rejoices over you and me with singing!

And He wants us to keep in touch regularly with Him.

This is what Philip the Evangelist did in Acts chapter 8. There had been great persecution against Christians in Jerusalem and many were scattered as they escaped. Philip spent some time in Samaria sharing the good news about Jesus wherever he went. Many became Christians and many needy people were healed. The Bible says there was 'great joy in that city'.

But then, we read in verse 26 that an angel of the Lord (we don't know what he looked like!) instructed Philip to go south on to the desert road between Jerusalem and Gaza. Philip was used to keeping in touch with God and didn't question it, he simply went, not knowing what was going to happen next. He was used to trusting God.

We know the account – on the road he saw an Ethiopian, an important Official, in charge of the treasury in his country, sitting in his chariot, on his way home from Jerusalem. The communication lines were certainly open between God and Philip because the Holy Spirit said "Go to that chariot and stay near to him". And Philip immediately ran alongside the chariot. He could hear the man reading the Prophet Isaiah aloud.

The penny dropped for Philip – he knew now why God had guided him to the desert road. He asked "Do you understand what you are reading"? The Ethiopian answered "How can I unless someone explains it to me. Who is this man Isaiah is talking about"? The Ethiopian invited Philip to sit with him.

What a God given opportunity! Philip was able to use the passage found in Isaiah 53 to tell him about Jesus. The Ethiopian was bowled over by the message of Jesus and became a Christian there and then!

They stopped by some water, maybe a small lake, and the Official asked if he could be baptised. The two men went down into the water and Philip baptised him. It witnessed to his chariot servants, that he had become a Christian.

As they came out of the water the Holy Spirit whisked Philip away again.

However, the Bible says the Ethiopian official went on his way full of joy. He had a wonderful message to take back to his own country.

It's amazing what God does when we keep in touch with Him. Let's make sure that we keep the communication lines with God open all the time. He will use us and bless us in ways we never dreamed could happen.

God bless

Veronica