

A wide-angle photograph of a field filled with red poppies and white flowers. In the background, there are several large, leafy trees under a dramatic sky with soft, orange and pink hues from a setting or rising sun. The overall mood is peaceful and natural.

NOVEMBER 2023



All Saints' Church
*Loving Jesus,
Loving Our Communities*

Listening For....



This week at one of our gatherings, the question was asked 'What skill do you think you are growing in'? I don't know what you would have answered to that question?

You could have said a hobby, a sport, a musical skill, or almost anything. For me the skill I am learning, or perhaps the understanding I am gaining, is that pausing to listen makes for better understanding and means if I do say something next, it is more likely to be worth hearing. Taking that deliberate pause when someone else has finished speaking to reflect, to be still, to go further than just hearing and really listen makes a world of difference. So often we can find ourselves hearing in order to respond. But listening to understand takes us to a much deeper relational understanding of one another.

Listening seems very much to be what is missing in our world. I have just driven home listening to Israelis, Palestinians, and other commentators try and make sense of what is going on in Gaza. It was evident in the conversation that not only is listening to understand, not happening; but also, different groups are seeing the same reality in different ways. Perhaps there is something to learn about how, when we really listen, what we see can be changed too.

Recently, students from one of the local primary schools came to my other church and we thought together about hearing God. There are many and varied ways people have heard God both in the Bible and since then; from Joseph's dreams, to John's visions, to Samuel hearing God guide him in circumstances around him, to the Bible being God's word that is brought alive to us as God uses it to speak into our lives. In one way or another God is always speaking, but what is common to all these examples, is pausing.



God's voice is often easiest to hear at particular moments in life when the circumstances turn down volume of the ordinary, and the real questions seem to bubble up. This can be in our teenage years, when we have children, when trauma hits, when challenges come, or when we feel we are reaching the twilight of our lives. But it need not be just circumstances that cause us to pause long enough to listen for God. With some effort and intentionality, we can choose to turn that volume down ourselves.

Tools to help us can be meditation on parts of the Bible, worship music, or simply putting away the phone, the tablet, the TV and making an appointment with yourself to be still. It is in those moments He can be heard and from that oasis in our week we can draw truth, light, and the strength to listen to others and show their worth.

So perhaps this month like me, you will find renewed pleasure in listening both to God and each other; pausing before responding and finding again the joy of being still and knowing you are heard by the one who loves you.

Matt Levinsohn



Sarah Hope - our 9am Pastoral Lead

In September, after some time listening to God, chatting to Matt, and praying about it, Matt asked me to become the pastoral lead for the 9:00 congregation. Basically, this means I will, alongside Matt and Ben, be available to support members of the 9:00 congregation in anything they may need in a pastoral sense. The 9:00 service is a lovely service to go to, reflective and quiet in nature, using a more formal liturgy than the 10:30 service.

As part of this role, I am organising some social events just for the 9:00 congregation, to build relationships and to be a place where we can invite like-minded people to come and join us. Our first event was a meal out at Uno's in Yarm in late September. Twenty of us gathered together to share a meal and enjoy each other's company. We had a lovely evening; the food was delicious, and the conversation flowed along the table. All agreed we should do more things like this together.

Our next event is a Film and afternoon tea in the church centre on Friday 24th November at 1:00pm. We are currently voting on which film to watch, from a shortlist of three. There is a sign-up sheet in the coffee lounge after the 9:00 service or let me know if you want to come.

I am at the 9:00 service most weeks and always available for a chat about how the week has gone, or to pray with you about things that are on your mind. My contact details are on ChurchSuite or please contact the office if you want to get hold of me during the week.

Over the past couple of months, I have really enjoyed getting to know more people in the congregation at 9:00 and I hope you are enjoying getting to know me too.



News from African Pastors Fellowship

Delegates arriving for a recent APF conference announced: “Thank God for Google Maps!” The couple had travelled 20km within the Kampala metropolitan area and had found the venue with digital assistance.

In nearly 20 years travelling the length and breadth of east Africa – on tarmac highways, maram roads, dusty tracks and dodging potholes, I’ve never seen my driver refer to a roadmap or atlas for directions. I’ve been lost in urban centres and sugar cane plantations, I’ve broken down ‘deep in the village’ and deep in the Rift Valley ... but finding the route or assistance was always social, accompanied by smiles and arm waving: “just branch at the big tree and continue ...” And we always reached our destination, sometimes several hours late, but we got there! It is significant that Africans now prefer a digital solution over asking their neighbour. Africa is changing, the change is rapid, and these changes have implications for mission and ministry: how is APF responding?

Digital Tools Little did we know when we launched eVitabu that a pandemic was coming that would accelerate the use of digital solutions to enable communication, training and church online. eVitabu continues to position APF ahead of the curve in terms of a digital tool that resources African pastors across the continent and reaches an estimated 1.5m believers with contextualised gospel resources.

Digital Training Having a device is one thing, using it effectively is another. At a Church of Uganda clergy conference in June the need to support pastors to utilise their Smartphone, being up-skilled to make use of office software, protect themselves and others online or develop a digital strategy was identified.

Digital Theology We are all being shaped by technology. How does this impact our understanding of who we are in Christ? What does this mean for our sense of belonging to the Body of Christ? How can we share the love of Christ with our neighbours both physically and digitally?

Thank God for Google Maps? Maybe. What is certain, Africa is changing as the internet becomes ‘embedded, embodied and everyday’ across the continent. And APF is uniquely well placed to seize the moment and continue its pioneering ministry to enable effective ministry in the digital age.



Dave Stedman

Remembrance Service

Sunday 12 November
9.45 am All Saints' Church
followed by
an Act of Remembrance
at the War Memorial





All Souls' Day Service

A time to remember

7th November 6pm
St Mary's Church, Long Newton

Remembering those we love but see no longer



GOING DEEPER

3 Mornings 9.00-12.30, 6 Topics,

Open to all who want to go deeper in their understanding of the bible and applying it to life.

2nd Dec * What is the big picture of the bible?
 *What does 'the bible is the word of God' mean?

9th March *What is Romans all about?
 *How have we got the church we have today? Whistle stop tour of key figures who have given us the church we have today.

11th May. *Science, Creation and Faith; understanding the world.
 *What is our hope? Understanding what comes next.

JOIN US FOR A

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

£1 ENTRY (KIDS FREE)

SATURDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2023

1.30PM-3.30PM

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IN AID OF BUILD HOME MEXICO,
WHERE OUR CHURCH YOUTH GROUP WILL BUILD
A HOME FOR A FAMILY IN NEED

ES EACH FOR
PIZZA, SNACKS
AND SOFT DRINKS

Pizza & Quiz Mens Night

Bring your friends and your brain power for a
night of pizza, pool, chat and trivia.

THURSDAY 23RD NOVEMBER @ 7.30PM
Youth Room, All Saints Church

Please let Martin know if
you are coming so we have
enough pizza!
martin.allsaints@gmail.com

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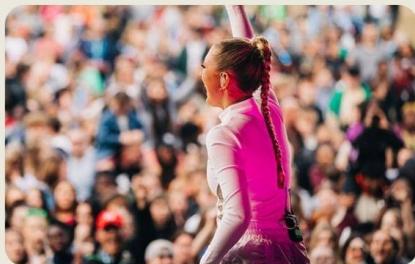
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SUNDAY 5 NOVEMBER

Adopted and forgiven

Ephesians 1:3-14, 1 Peter 1:3-8

9am Morning Worship

10.30am Morning Worship

Speaker David Munby

SUNDAY 12 NOVEMBER

Remembrance Sunday

Alive, raised and seated

Ephesians 2:1-10, Isaiah 2:2-5

9.45am Morning Worship

Speaker Ben Scott

SUNDAY 19 NOVEMBER

Brought near, at peace

Ephesians 2:11-22, Hosea 14:1-9

9am Communion

10.30am Communion

Speaker Sola Adeboye

SUNDAY 26 NOVEMBER

Pointed to Jesus

Ephesians 3:7-13, Romans 15:18-21

9am Morning Worship

10.30am Morning Worship

Speaker Clive Shergold

Nov 2023 Dates				
Worship	Midweek	Youth	Children & Families	Other
Morning Prayer Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 9.10am Zoom: 862 4733 2301 Password 316316	Informal Holy Communion Wed 9.30am - Centre	Youth Life Groups <i>term time</i> Wed, 6-8pm – everyone to start in the Youth Rooms	Toddlers Thurs <i>term time</i> 9.45am -11.30am - Centre	Hymn Singing for All Mon 27 Nov 6.30pm-7.30pm Church
Prayer & Worship Sat 11 Nov 9am-10am Meeting Room	Life Groups – various days/times see noticeboard in Centre	Youth Club <i>term time</i> Fri, 7-9pm – Centre	Play and Praise Fri <i>term time</i> 10am-11.30am – Centre	Sharing Faith Thurs 9 Nov 7.30pm-8.30pm The Vicarage
Young Adults Gathering Sun 5 Nov 7.30pm-9pm Jubilee Church	Monday Morning Coffee Mondays 9.30am-11.30am Youth Room	Youth Church – during our Sunday 10.30am services – Youth Rooms	Gems (up to reception) and Trailblazers (Y1-Y6), during our Sunday 10.30am service - Centre & Meeting Room	Prayer Meeting for General Synod Mon 13 Nov 7pm-9pm Church
Encounter Sun 26 Nov 6pm-7.30pm Church	Connect Lunch Tues 14 Nov 11.45am-2pm Centre	Doulos Mon 20 Nov 7pm-9pm Youth Rooms	God's Giants Group (Y5&6) Tues 14 & 28 Nov 4.15pm-5.15pm Youth Room	Pizza & Quiz Mens Night Thurs 23 Nov 7.30pm Youth Room
	Connect Seated Exercise Tues 1pm - Centre (not on Connect lunch club days)	Youth Apprenticeships Sun 19 Nov during the 10.30am service	Puppet Practice Mon 7pm-9pm – Centre <i>term time</i>	All Souls Service Tues 7 Nov 6pm St Mary's, Long Newton
	Joyful Craft Thursdays 1.30pm-3pm, Library	Café Church, <i>Back in December</i>	Parenting Children Course Mon 9.45am-11.15am Youth Rooms	
	Ukraine Support Café Thurs 2, 16 & 30 Nov 7pm-9pm Youth Room	Refresh <i>Back in January</i>	Discovery Church Sun 12 Nov 3.15-4.45pm Centre	
		Christmas Fair (Mexico Fundraiser) Sat 18 Nov 1.30pm-3.30pm Centre		

Standing Committee Mon 6 Nov 7.30pm, The Vicarage, PCC Mon 20 Nov 7.30pm Meeting Room