



St George's Church Newsletter

October 2026

Dear Church family,

Welcome to the second edition of our new monthly newsletter. We are going to be experimenting a little as we work out the best format for this. The intention is to make it easier for us in the office to plan ahead to provide you all with more relevant information each month. My hope for the newsletter will be to give you more contextual articles or information that link to the themes that form part of the Church calendar for the month. Also it will provide you the usual information of ministry activities or outreach ministries that will happen in our parish or across the deanery.

This month we are completing our season of Creationtide with our All Age Harvest Festival on Sunday 4th October, where we will thank God for his generosity. This will then roll into a month where our preaching themes are based on the lectionary readings but still link to this theme. As we move on from Creationtide, I'd encourage you not to forget our responsibilities to care for creation. We have also included information that Karen shared with us about eco-friendly swaps to help us protect the environment.

God bless,

Revd Andrew Walmsley

The eyes of all look to you, and you give them
their food at the proper time. You open your
hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

Psalms 145:15-16 (NIV)

Generosity

September draws to a close, and as it does, we end our season of Creationtide with our Harvest Service. This service is a chance for us to remember what God provides for us. What we need to remember, though, is that this world is not ours; it is God's, and it is a gift to us. Haggai 2:8 says:

The silver is mine and the gold is mine,' declares the Lord Almighty.

It is very easy to believe that the world is ours. We (humanity) develop and make the things that we use. The ground is cultivated by us to grow crops that we harvest, and we mine it for minerals to construct our cities of steel and glass. We are intelligent and invent ways of making screens that move and make sound. Regardless of how we think about the objects and possessions we have or have made, it does not change the simple fact that God created the world. Everything that we have, all the minerals we extract and the food we eat, is because God created and placed it there. Psalm 24:1 reminds us,

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it;

God made the world. He made it perfect, but because of the SIN of Adam and Eve, the world was torn apart. Even after God expelled Adam and Eve from the Garden as punishment, the world remained God's. It didn't change hands. Yes, God allowed the devil some control over the earth (John 12.31, John 14.30, Luke 4.5-7), but it is still His. No matter what we have, no matter how much we gain from the work of our own hands or how much we desire, it doesn't change the fact that the world is God's. This is reiterated in Psalm 50:10-12.

... for every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills. I know every bird in the mountains, and the creatures of the field are mine. If I were hungry I would not tell you, for the world is mine, and all that is in it.

These passages should raise an interesting question: If the world is God's and not ours, then what are we giving back to Him?

Let me tell you about a Sunday School teacher who asked her eager 10-year-olds if they would give £1,000,000 to the missionaries.

"YES!" they all screamed!!

"Would you give £1,000?" Again they shouted "YES!"

"How about £100?" "Oh, YES we would!" they all agreed!!

"Would you give just a pound to the missionaries?" she asked.



The children exclaimed "YES!" just as before, except for Johnnie.

"Johnnie," the teacher said as she noticed the boy clutching his pocket, "why didn't you say 'YES' this time?"

"Well," he said, "I HAVE a pound."

How often are we that child? We can hear and read about how generous God is, and what he provides for us. We can hear wonderful stories of the work that has been done thanks to the generous giving of those individuals, who often donate sizeable sums for the work of the church. However, it can be hard when it comes to the pound in our own pocket.

Generosity is about what God gives to us, but also what we can give back to Him. Often that means we need to be the ones who give. Giving and generosity should not come just from a sense of obligation, but from our love of God. A love that wants to give back to him. We will think more about this topic next year as we begin to consider the missional plan that we will have as a church. Until then, just remember the pound in your pocket, remember whose pound it really is.

Giving @ St George's

Is this the time for you to prayerfully consider your financial giving to God's work here at St George's?

Our costs for running the church have increased in all areas: cleaning, heating, maintenance, wages, and even printing. In September we had to replace our office printer/copier at a cost of £1,000, and in August our church hall roof had to be replaced, costing over £13,000. These major expenses combined with a decrease in almost £4,000 in donations from last year to this year (to 31 August 2026), has made a significant dent to our church finances.

There are several ways to support St. George's financially:

- By cash or cheque - simply drop your donation in the giving jar.
- Envelope – so that you can put money aside even when you can't come to church.
- Bank transfer for one-off or regular gifts.

Also, if you sign a Gift Aid declaration form, every £10 is turned into £12.50. This is a government scheme where a charity can claim back the tax its donors have paid on their donations.

For more information, please speak to our Gift Aid Secretary, Anne Bassett.

ECO Friendly Swaps

Eco-Friendly Swaps – some available as mobile apps

This is not an exhaustive list- just a few alternatives to reflect upon:

1. 'Ecosia' - Eco-friendly internet search engine: www.Ecosia.org
2. 'The Tree App' - Planting trees: <https://www.thetreeapp.org/>
3. 'Tree Aid' - Planting trees: <https://treeaid.org>
4. 'Earth Wardrobe' - Sustainable Clothing: <https://earthwardrobe.com>
5. 'The Modern Milkman' - Milk in glass bottles, and household items:
<https://themodernmilkman.co.uk>
6. 'Milk and more' - Milk in glass bottles, and household items: <https://milkandmore.co.uk>
7. 'Splosh' - Household products: <https://splosh.com> (reusable, refillable products)
8. 'Bower Collective' - Household and personal products: <https://bowercollective.com> (reusable, refillable products)
9. 'Peace with the Wild' - Household and personal products:
<https://www.peacewiththewild.co.uk> (products in metal or glass containers, refills in paper bags)
10. 'Green Planet Beauty' - Personal products: <https://greenplanetbeauty.co.uk/> (items in metal, glass or cardboard containers)
11. 'Ziracle' - Personal products: <https://www.ziracle.com/> (beauty products in sustainable packaging, no plastics in the products)
12. 'Odd Box' - Rescued Fruit and Veg that is rejected before going to the shops:
<https://www.oddbox.co.uk>
13. 'Too Good to go' - Rescuing produce that is coming to its expiry date:
<https://www.toogoodtogo.com>
14. 'Vinted' - Second hand clothes, electrics, and other goods: <https://www.vinted.co.uk/>
15. Ethical mobile phones:
 - <https://www.fairphone.com/>
 - <https://www.ecotalk.co.uk/community-stories/ethical-mobile-phone>
 - <https://meaningfulplanet.co.uk/articles/your-guide-to-eco-friendly-mobile-phones-and-sustainable-choices-in-the-uk/>
16. Ethical mobile phone cases:
 - <https://uk.pelacase.com/>
 - <https://www.wavecase.co.uk>
17. 'Recycling facts' Recycling bins: <https://www.recyclingbins.co.uk/pages/recycling-fact>

Prayer Ministry

Prayer Ministry: Here to pray with you



Prayer is at the heart of our life together as a church, and our Prayer Ministry Team is here to support anyone who would value prayer.

Members of the team are available to pray with people after every Sunday morning service and during communion when we have our communion services. Whether you are facing a particular challenge, celebrating good news, seeking guidance, or would simply appreciate someone standing alongside you in prayer, you are warmly invited to come forward.

Prayer Ministry offers a short, focused opportunity for our trained team members to listen, pray, and intercede on your behalf. While it is not a counselling service or a lengthy conversation, it is a chance to bring your concerns, hopes, and thanksgivings before God with the support of fellow Christians.

Confidentiality, sensitivity, and a Christ-centred approach are at the heart of this ministry. All of our team members have engaged in training and receive regular refresher training to help ensure that prayer is offered prayerfully, thoughtfully, and consistently.

We are also always delighted to welcome new people who feel called to this ministry. If you would like to find out more about joining the Prayer Ministry Team or the wider Prayer Chain, please speak to any member of the Pastoral Team.

Equally, if you would like prayer for yourself at any time, please do reach out to one of the Pastoral Leaders or one of our twelve Prayer Ministers. You can find our names on the church noticeboard. We would be privileged to pray with you.

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." (Philippians 4:6)

Homegroups

Home groups are a vital and important part of our church life



We believe that both pastoral care and discipleship is easier and more effective through a small group approach. Over 60 people regularly attend 6 homegroups which generally meet fortnightly at different times during the week and at different times during the day. A home group is a great place to build relationships, explore God's word together, be supported in prayer and enjoy fun and food with others.

If you are interested in joining a group, please contact our Homegroup Coordinator, Neil Geddes or speak to Revd Andrew.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

HELP SUPPORT YOUR FOODBANK
WITH FOOD AND FUNDS THIS HARVEST



St George's Church, Glascote
invites you to our

ALL AGE HARVEST CELEBRATION

on 4th October 2026 at 10am

followed by refreshments.



DONATE FOOD

Help by donating an item
or two from our shopping list
to ensure we can provide
food to help people in crisis.



DONATE MONEY

Help to cover the costs
of storing and distributing
food, as well as developing
sustainable projects.



SHOPPING LIST

- MILK (LONG LIFE)
- SUGAR
- FRUIT JUICE (LONG LIFE)
- PASTA SAUCES
- TINNED PUDDING
- TINNED SOUP
- TINNED TOMATOES
- TINNED RICE PUDDING
- TINNED VEGETABLES
- TEA BAGS / INSTANT COFFEE
- CLEANING SUPPLIES
- INSTANT MASH POTATO
- UNOPENED TOILETRIES
- RICE
- TINNED MEAT
- TINNED FRUIT
- TREATS

Thank you!



Everyone is invited to join us for this celebration and,
if you can, help support Tamworth's Foodbank by bringing
along a contribution for their Harvest Appeal.

Sunday Themes During October

Creationtide comes to an end with our service of thanksgiving for Harvest on 4th October. We then continue with our readings that, though lectionary readings, link to the theme of Generosity.

Sunday 4th October

Creationtide: Harvest Thanksgiving – A time for generosity, gratitude and dependence
We give thanks to God for what he provides, remembering our dependence on him as creator and sustainer.

Sunday 11th October

The Parable of the wedding feast.
Jesus concludes with the striking statement: "For many are invited, but few are chosen."

Sunday 18th October

Who do you pay taxes to?

A challenging passage from Matthew's Gospel with a challenge for us to give to God what is God's

Sunday 25th October

The Great Commandment
From a challenge to Jesus to name the greatest commandment, we get a response that outlines how we should live today.



- **Saturday 3rd Oct - Community Breakfast 9am (Church Hall)**
- **Wednesday 7th Oct - Preschool Committee meeting 10.30am (Chancel)**
- **Saturday 31st Oct - Prayer Group Meeting 9am (St Georges Church)**



Bring a cup!

We don't have a huge kitchen here at St George's Church to wash up cups after the service. That means we want to encourage you to bring a cup with you on a Sunday rather than use a paper one. Not only can you help the environment, but you can fill it with free tea or coffee!

Sunbeams Stay and Play

Come along to Sunbeams for a friendly morning of play and time together. It's a lovely chance for little ones to have fun and for parents, grandparents, and carers to meet others. Tea, coffee and refreshments are available too.

We meet every Thursday during term time from 9:30 am - 11 am, in St George's Church. We'd love to see you there.

Harvest Prayer

**Faithful God of seedtime and harvest,
you have gifted us a world
that is bursting with abundant life.**

**Please open our eyes to your good gifts around us,
and open our mouths to give you thanks and praise.
For 'The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof',
and 'all things come from you'.**

Amen

