

This month

Revd Daile writes	1
Benefice July/August services	2
Tea, cake and church business	
Yatton Group Services	3-4
FOCOS Tea and Cake/Foodbank	
Martin Stephenson concert	5
MU News/John Angle writes	6/7
FOCOS outing	7
Claverham news/Cleaning rota/	8
Useful no's/Kingston Seymour cream teas/Thank you	



Issue 420 July 2026

July Messenger

Press Pause

I am busy gathering resources for *Jesus Out of the Box*, which a team from church will be taking into Court de Wyck on 30th June. We will be sharing Bible stories from the life of Jesus with Year 5 pupils, helping them explore who Jesus is and what his life and teachings might mean for us today.

As part of the morning, the children will be invited to wonder what questions they might want to ask Jesus, and what the stories they hear mean to them. It also includes a special section called **Press Pause**.

During this time, the children are encouraged to be still, slow down, to give time to reflect on what they have heard and learnt about Jesus. Each child is given a **Press Pause** box, filled with resources to help them be still. We use simple creative activities such as mindful colouring, tracing a labyrinth, sitting in silence while an egg timer counts down the seconds, moulding play dough and other reflective exercises to help create a quiet space for thinking and wondering. We are teaching them to pray in creative ways.

As I have been preparing these sessions, I have found myself asking a similar question: **what do I do when I need to press pause?**



Life often feels busy. Our days can be filled with work, family commitments, church activities, appointments, responsibilities, and the constant stream of information that surrounds us. It can be easy to move from one task to the next without stopping to breathe, reflect, or listen.

Perhaps when you need to pause, you go for a walk, spend time in the garden, knit, read a book, enjoy a cup of tea, listen to music, pray, journal, or simply sit quietly. We all have different ways of slowing down, but most of us recognise the value of creating space amid the busyness.

As we move into July and August and the holiday season begins, many of us will have opportunities to step out of our usual routines. Whether you are going away, enjoying days out with family, or simply spending more time at home, summer offers a valuable reminder of the importance of rest.



Jesus himself modelled the practice of pressing pause. Throughout the Gospels, we see him regularly withdrawing from the crowds to spend time in prayer and solitude. Even when demands on his time were great, Jesus knew the importance of stepping away to be with his Father. Before major decisions, after busy periods of ministry, and in times of challenge, he intentionally made space for prayer, reflection, and renewal.

The Bible teaches the principle of Sabbath rest. While many people traditionally associate Sabbath with Sunday, its purpose reaches far beyond a single day. Sabbath reminds us that we are human beings, not human doings. God created us with a need for rest, worship, reflection, and relationship with him.

Perhaps adopting Sabbath principles does not have to mean setting aside an entire day. It may simply mean building small pauses into our daily lives: a few minutes of prayer before the day begins, a walk where we notice God's creation, time spent reading Scripture, or moments of stillness in which we become aware of God's presence.

If this is something you struggle with, why not create your own **Press Pause** box - fill it with things you could do when you need to press pause. I wonder what might help you slow down, rest, and make space for God?

Rev'd Daile

You are invited to join us at **Holy Trinity Cleeve and St Barnabas Claverham**

Summertime Services

5th July - Holy Trinity
10am Holy Communion

12th July
No service in HT or St B today, as we join with Yatton Moor Churches for a group service

10am Holy Communion
at St Mary's in Yatton

19th July - Holy Trinity
10am Holy Communion

26th July - St Barnabas
10am Holy Communion

2nd August - Holy Trinity
10am Holy Communion

9th August - St Barnabas
10am Holy Communion

16th August - Holy Trinity
10am Holy Communion

23rd August - St Barnabas
10am Holy Communion

30th August - Holy Trinity
10am Morning Worship

Every Thursday in Holy Trinity there is a short service of Holy Communion or Reflection and Prayer.
All are welcome to join us. For more information Tel: 01934 904765

Midweek Services at Holy Trinity

At 9.30 every Thursday morning . Everybody Welcome.

Sunday 12th July Group Service at 10am

Group Communion Service: **St. Mary's**, followed by coffee, and then a Group Lunch from 12 midday at Bickley, Cleeve to which members of all five churches are very welcome.

If you wish to attend the lunch, please add your name to the list in church, indicating any dietary needs, or contact - Lin Mortimer - 01934 838515 or Elizabeth Vaughan - 07787 781716..

Tea, Cake and Church Business

An update from your PCC

It is often said that an army marches on its stomach, but here in Cleeve and Claverham, our church seems to run on tea and cake!

We enjoy spending time together, working as a team, sharing fellowship, and being part of our community. Yet there is also a serious side to church life that should not be overlooked. Behind the scenes, a dedicated group of volunteers gives its time and energy to discuss, plan, make decisions, and ensure that the church is well-run and prepared for the future.

Much of this work goes unseen. The PCC deals with the practical, legal, financial, and administrative responsibilities of church life—tasks that may not be particularly exciting, but which are essential if the church is to flourish.

I thought it might be helpful to start a regular update on what your PCC has been doing. If you heard my talk on Sunday about "**the small print**", then perhaps this is the small print of church life: the things that rarely make headlines, the jobs that nobody particularly enjoys, but which nevertheless must be done.

Before I tell you what we have been doing, perhaps it is worth introducing the PCC. We are not a distant committee meeting behind closed doors, but a group of ordinary members of our church family who care deeply about the future of our parish and have agreed to take on these responsibilities on behalf of the church.

The PCC currently consists of: Dave, Lin, Gill, Elizabeth, Marianne, Jeannie, Diana, Derek, Linda, Janet, and Nick.

Together we share responsibility for the mission, ministry, finances, buildings, safeguarding, and governance of the parish. All serve on a voluntary basis and give their time, energy, and expertise to support the life of our churches.

So, what have we been working on?

This year we have been preparing for our Quinquennial Inspections and are now establishing a small group to consider what repairs, maintenance, and improvements may be needed to our church buildings over the next five years.

We have implemented a GDPR policy to ensure that personal information held by the church is managed appropriately and securely.

We have spent time considering how we can continue to develop a culture of safeguarding throughout our churches, ensuring that everyone can participate safely and confidently in church life.

We have written and reviewed risk assessments for church activities and events.

We are considering how our website can better serve both our congregations and the wider community.

We are updating our Terrier and Property Register and ensuring that we remain compliant with diocesan regulations and legal requirements.

These are just a few of the many tasks that occupy the PCC throughout the year.

Important Notices from the PCC

Please be careful when taking photographs during church services or church events. People have the right to attend worship without being identified or having their image shared publicly. Photographs during services, or immediately before and after services, should not be taken unless everyone present has given permission and understands why the photographs are being taken and where they may be used. Photographs at church events may be taken provided appropriate notices are displayed explaining their intended use and giving people the opportunity to opt out. Photographs of children should not be taken or published without the appropriate permissions and safeguarding procedures being followed.

GDPR and Consent Forms

The PCC has adopted a Privacy Notice explaining what personal information we hold and how it is used. Copies are displayed on the noticeboards in both churches. To help us comply with data protection requirements, we need everyone to complete a consent form giving us permission to contact you and to hold the information necessary for church administration. If you have not yet completed a form, please do so and return it to Daile or Diana.

Have a Question for the PCC?

The PCC exists to serve the parish, and we would love to hear from you. If you have a question, suggestion, concern, or idea about any aspect of church life, please speak to any member of the PCC. So, if you see one of us over a cup of tea and a slice of cake, do come and say hello. Thank you for your support. *Rev'd Daile*

Yatton Group Services

1st SUNDAY - 5th July

8.30am St. John's: BCP Holy Communion
10.00am St. Mary's Yatton: Communion
11.00am All Saints': All Together

2nd SUNDAY - 12th July

10.00am -St Mary's Yatton
GROUP Holy Communion followed by
Lunch at Bickley, Cleeve at 12 noon

3rd SUNDAY - 19th July

10.00am St. Mary's: Morning Prayer
11.00am All Saints' - Holy Communion

4th Sunday -26th July

10.00am St Mary's Holy Communion
11.00am St John's Holy Communion
with Baptism.

MID-WEEK SERVICES -

on Tuesdays and Wednesdays:
8.15am Morning Prayer on Zoom

FOCOS CAKE & TEA AFTERNOON

at BICKLEY on **Thursday 2nd July 2026**

A Last chance invitation to all in Cleeve and Claverham

A reminder that there will be a delicious Afternoon Tea event in the lovely surroundings of Bickley on **Thursday 2nd July**, commencing at 2.30pm.



It is not too late to book your place for this popular afternoon out, please ring the FOCOS hotline on either 832917 or 838515 – if our call centre staff are unavailable, please leave a message. The cost for this enchanting afternoon is just £2.50. Lifts are available – just ask!

Concert at Holy Trinity - September 4th

Join us for this fabulous concert as **Cleeve Village Hall** teams up with **Holy Trinity Church** to put on a fundraising night of live music in this beautiful, atmospheric setting.



Beloved British songwriter **Martin Stephenson**, best known for his work with his band The Daintees, returns to Cleeve to play at this new venue.

Renowned for his warm charm and poetic storytelling, Stephenson has spent decades crafting songs that move effortlessly between folk, jazz, country, pop and rock 'n' roll. From the jangling brilliance of his debut album 'Boat To Bolivia' to a rich catalogue spanning over

40 years, his music continues to captivate audiences with its honesty, wit and heart..

In this intimate setting, expect renditions of classic favourites alongside hidden gems, delivered with the humour and spontaneity that makes every performance by this artist unique.

This event will have a cash licensed bar and a raffle (prize donations very welcome!) to help raise as much money as we can for Holy Trinity and this will be a wonderful opportunity to experience Martin Stephenson live in this lovely Church for the very first time. A special night guaranteed!

Ticket link here - <https://wegottickets.com/f/22587>

A Thank You from Clevedon and District Foodbank

Received by our Treasurer, Dave Mortimer -

Please accept this email as acknowledgement and thanks for the generous donation of £425.00 from the Lent Lunch and the parishioners of Holy Trinity Church. We are truly grateful for your continued support. Please pass on our thanks and appreciation to everyone involved. Their kindness makes a real difference.

We have already begun planning for the six-week summer holidays, during which we will be providing approximately 500 lunch bags to children who would normally receive free school meals. As you can imagine, this requires purchasing a significant amount of both fresh and non-perishable food.

The ongoing support of local churches and community groups is what makes this work possible. Once again, thank you very much for your generosity.

Kind regards, Kelly Croxton, Charity Administrator

If you would like to donate to the Foodbank you can help their very valuable work by popping something into the Foodbank box which is outside the kitchen at Holy Trinity.

CLEEVE & CLAVERHAM MOTHERS' UNION



Worldwide Lunch

Cleeve Village Hall was packed for this popular annual event to raise money for our overseas branches. MU members from Yatton and Nailsea were in attendance for the wonderful meal - baked potatoes with a huge array of toppings and salads. We knew from experience that there would be a huge range of puddings on offer, so the canny among us left some room and were not disappointed, as even by Cleeve and Claverham standards the sweet delights that appeared were amazing.

There was a lovely atmosphere of friendship and jollity and at the end of the afternoon the fantastic sum of £705.75 was raised for overseas projects which target women's education, encourages self sufficiency, equipping members and their communities to recognise and utilise the skills, resources and talents around them. Through this process, people take ownership of their future, lifting them from dependency. Many thanks to Lin and her team and to all who helped to make this a really enjoyable occasion. *Ed*

Toddlers' Picnic

Cleeve and Claverham MU would like to invite babies and toddlers who are under school age, together with their parents/grandparents/carers to come and join us for a picnic in the lawned area at Cleeve Village Hall on **Friday 10th July at 12 noon**.

If you would like to join us for a lovely lunch and fun time, please contact Lin Mortimer on **01934 838515**, no later than **Friday 3rd July**, to advise her of the number of adults and children requiring food [please leave a message if there is no answer on the phone].

The cost of the lunch for adults is £3. Children are free. Please also advise if any vegetarian meals are required and of any food allergies, so that we can cater for everyone attending.

There is ample parking at Cleeve Village Hall. If the weather looks inclement, the picnic will still go ahead, but we will move inside the Village Hall. We look forward to seeing you there.

Flower Festival

This year The Mothers Union celebrates 150 years since it was founded by Mary Sumner in 1876. During these 150 years, the Mothers' Union has been making a meaningful difference in the lives of millions in this country and worldwide through its unique, faith-based and community-led approach to tackling poverty, injustice and violence.



To recognise and celebrate this anniversary, the Cleeve and Claverham Branch of the Mothers' Union will be holding a Flower Festival at Holy Trinity Church from **11th to 13th September**.

We hope that you will put this date into your diaries and come and see Holy Trinity, adorned with a wonderful display of flowers. There will be some super refreshments available throughout the Festival.

John Angle writes ...

Gaza, the West Bank, Palestine..... Unrest, trouble, hardship and suffering continues.

During a visit in May I spent my time travelling around the land – almost entirely in the West Bank – the Palestinian areas, and visiting friends and ministries supported by the Hope Christian Trust.

Travel was not easy as the Israeli Army (the IDF) has regular, and it seems “pop up”, checkpoints which causes long delays and often necessitates diversions across fields or tracks. Just recently this caused over £500 damage to my friends' car! Normal family and cultural life is affected.

Checkpoints are places to be feared by the Palestinians. *Cont'd...*

In my travels at one checkpoint I saw a young man roughly taken from his car by two soldiers behind a shed – “for a beating” my Palestinian friend said, and, as I went to get out of the car, “don’t do anything please John or we will all be in trouble”!

This is life for the Palestinians – difficulty in travel and living in constant fear. The Saturday I was there soldiers came in their jeeps into Manger Square threatening the local people who, in fear, dispersed quickly. In the background. The occupation and the three year war with Hamas in Gaza, and now Hezbollah in the Lebanon has had a devastating affect. The Palestinian people particularly in Bethlehem and Jerusalem with so many of them relying on tourism, have no income – hotels and shops are closed. Unemployment is very high, many live in near poverty. I talked with the RC parish priest in one town in the central part of Palestine who was telling me of the frequent action of Israeli settlers who set up home (first caravans and then pre fab style buildings) near to Palestinan villages and come into the villages, assault the people (some have been killed!), steal their land, set fire to their homes and cars and destroy their olive trees and kill their sheep. In the rural areas of Palestine this is “normal” day to day life. The Israeli Army do nothing to stop this.

In the early church (Acts 4.36) we read of Barnabas whose names means “Son of Encouragement”. This was the ministry I attempted to emulate – meeting with folk, encouraging them, being a friend often praying with them, particularly the elderly and those who were sick – it was much appreciated. I was not allowed entry to Gaza where the situation continues to be horrific. The majority of the people live in tent cities or the ruins of their homes. Nothing changes and it seems the world has forgotten them. The Trust is particularly concerned about the serious deterioration in the health of Palestinian children in Gaza. The Trust has now found a way to send in substantial financial support to trusted friends to help. The whole Middle East continues to be in turmoil – as a Trust all we can do is a little for a few but we believe for many it makes a real difference.

Please continue to pray. *Janet & John.*

Focos Annual Mystery Coach Trip.



This much anticipated outing took place on Thursday 9th June. There was the usual speculation as we headed through Yatton and on to the Motorway and as we approached the Severn Bridge it was clear that we were going to Wales! The drive through the valleys was breathtakingly beautiful with the chequerboard green fields dotted with white fleeced sheep.

We stopped first at the Old Railway Line Garden Centre for lunch and a browse round before the next leg of our trip which led us to the Brecon Canal and the narrow boat ‘Dragonfly’ upon whose tables sat boxes containing huge cream and jam scones! The skipper of the boat was very entertaining advising us that if the boat went down we shouldn’t panic, just stand up as the canal is only about two feet deep! After a leisurely cruise, along gently flowing waters through a lock and under bridges we returned to the Brecon Canal Basin to our coach for the journey home.

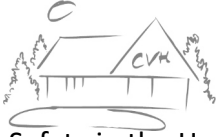


It was a brilliant day out. Many thanks to Dave and Lin who reconnoitred and negotiated the whole trip, and to our lovely driver, Dave. *Ed*

Holy Trinity Cleaning Rota

Kath Hunt Alan Hunt	July 5th
Gill Roe Helen Bailey	July 19th
Carole Perrott Jennie Ford	August 2nd
Jenny Haworth	August 16th

Claverham news



On Thursday **2nd July** 'Ladies' Guild' will have a talk about Safety in the Home, (very important!) and on **6th Aug.** they will be out for a cream tea at Cadbury Garden Centre.

Claverham Village market will be **Saturday July 18th** from 10am until 12 noon. All the usual stalls and friendly atmosphere.

Post office Counter open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 - 12pm.

Useful Church Contacts

Rector Cleeve & Claverham	Revd Daile Wilshere dailewilshere@live.co.uk	01934 904765 or 07810 551447
Deputy Wardens	Dave & Lin Mortimer	01934 838515
	Elizabeth Vaughan	07787 781716
	Gill Roe	01934 832917
Safeguarding Officer	Jeannie Osmond	01934 832421
Websites	www.achurchnearyou.com/holy-trinity-trinity-cleeve www.achurchnearyou.com/st-barnabas-claverham htcleeve.wixsite.com/cleeve-and-claverham	
Facebook	facebook.com/Cleeve-and-Claverham-Messenger	



Thank you for your contributions to this month's Messenger. The August edition will be published on the last Sunday of July so any contributions for the next edition should be with me by Sunday 19th July. As usual they can be sent on e mail to carole.perrott@gmx.com, put through the door of 15 Chestnut Drive Claverham, or given to me at church.