

...THOUGHT
FOR THE
MONTH

60 years of the M1...

The first stretch of the M1 motorway opened 60 years ago this month, on 1st November 1959. The first motorway service station opened at the same time - Watford Gap, a rather successful attempt to confuse motorists, as it is not near the town of Watford, but close to the obscure Northamptonshire village of the same name. Technically not the first piece of motorway in Britain – that was the Preston bypass, later part of the M6, which was built the previous year – the M1 was Britain's first full-length motorway, running from what is now Junction 5 (actually near the town of Watford) to the current Junction 18 (Crick). At first there were no speed limits, central reservations or lighting on motorways - can you imagine if it were like that now! So much different to the 'smart motorways' of today. A temporary speed limit of 70mph was introduced in 1965 and soon became permanent.

Engineers who designed the road estimated that about 20,000 cars would use it each day, but the real figure today is closer to 140,000. We so easily take motorways for granted now, driving on and off them without really thinking.

In November we celebrate Remembrance, thinking of those who gave their lives in service for the country in many conflicts. By having a special time to focus on this, it helps to ensure that we don't take them and their actions and sacrifice for granted. Very soon the poppy will be very much in evidence, and rightly so.

But I am challenged as to whether I am ever guilty of taking for granted what Christ accomplished on the cross for me (and you). Do I spend enough time reflecting on that, considering the great cost He paid and the great benefits that are mine? Matt Redman put it this way:

Once again I look on the cross where You died,
I'm humbled by Your mercy and I'm broken inside
Once again I thank You, once again I pour out my life.

Lord, help me never to take for granted your love demonstrated in the Lord Jesus Christ.

IN
touch

NOV
2019



step back and see the bigger picture...

the word for today

'A great and effective door has opened to me, and there are many adversaries'

1 Corinthians 16 v 9 NKJV

Source:

The Word for Today
United Christian
Broadcasters,
Westport Road,
Stoke-on-Trent, ST6 4JF

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One day the Chamber of Commerce in a small town invited a successful businessman to come and speak. The local economy was bad and they were discouraged, so his job was to motivate them. He took a large piece of white paper and made a red dot in the centre of it. 'What do you see?' he asked the audience. One person replied, 'I see a red dot.' The speaker said, 'Fine, but what else do you see?' Others chimed in, 'A red dot.' The speaker asked, 'Don't you see anything besides the dot?' The audience responded with a resounding 'no!' The speaker said, 'You've overlooked the most important thing; you've missed seeing the sheet of paper!' Then he went on to explain that in life we are often distracted by small, dot-like failures and experiences. They keep us from seeing the blessings and successes that are more important than the disappointments that try to monopolise our attention and drain our energy.

Paul wrote, 'A great and effective door has opened to me, and there are many adversaries.' Opportunity and obstacles – they go together like macaroni and cheese or fish and chips. Now, Paul didn't deny the reality of the opposition he faced; he just chose to focus on the opportunity it presented. The poet wrote, 'Two men looked through prison bars. One saw mud, the other stars.' What are you looking at? Are you so preoccupied with what is that you've lost sight of what can be? If so, you need to step back and ask God to help you see the bigger picture.



church offerings

SUNDAY	29th	SEPTEMBER	£462.10
SUNDAY	6th	OCTOBER	£294.10
SUNDAY	13th	OCTOBER	£247.75
SUNDAY	20th	OCTOBER	£401.50

In addition, the sum of £1255.00 was paid direct to the bank in **September**. If you would like to give in this way, then please speak to Richard Weekley.

The amount given as Harvest Gifts to be divided between Christian Aid and Water Aid was £369.20.

The Thank Offering stands at £1846.00 Many thanks.



Service of Light Sunday 3rd November (4.00pm)

Everyone is invited to come to our annual service; as always we say it's for 'all who have lost someone dear to them' – it may be in the last year or many years ago, it doesn't matter, you'll be very welcome. It is also ideal to invite others to – why not take an invitation for someone?

There will be hymns and songs, a short Bible reflection and a time to light candles. It will be followed by tea and cakes.



Dear friends,

I would just like to thank you for all your prayers and concerns over the past 16 months. The way the Lord has led me and the many Christians I have met and shared with is so wonderful. We have been able to talk and pray together and have been really blessed. I know it's because friends are praying as well.

I still can't walk but am being looked after so well – everyone is so kind. For all my friends who phone me and come and visit, I am so grateful. I am involved with Emma Mae who does all the entertainment we have here, and I really enjoy that. One of my highlights is sharing in communion every few Sunday evenings with Phillip and the friends from High Street.

It's so wonderful how the Lord works as my room is opposite Pam McLellan's. Although we cannot talk to each other we know Christ is with us. How Christ can be. He's always opening doors, I just thank Him; I thought I knew Him but every day I know Him better. The peace He gives is wonderful.

Hope to see you sometime, thank you again for all your prayers.

Margaret O'Dell



school assembly dates this month

(for your prayers please)

WEDNESDAY	13th	Tennyson Road Infant School
WEDNESDAY	13th	Alfred Street Junior School
WEDNESDAY	13th	South End Infant School (Anne to lead)
WEDNESDAY	20th	South End Infant School
TUESDAY	26th	Whitefriars Primary School (Juniors)



NOVEMBER 2019

Weekday DIARY DATES

SAT	2nd	10.00am	Coffee Morning
TUES	5th	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 50 Boundary Avenue
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
WEDS	6th	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Home Group
THURS	7th	6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
		7.30pm	Y-Not Youth Club
SAT	9th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
		10.00am	Circuit Meeting at Wymington (Coffee from 9.30am)
TUES	12th	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 15 Fern Road
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
WEDS	13th	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Home Group
THURS	14th	6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
		7.30pm	Y-Not Youth Club
SAT	16th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
TUES	19th	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 50 Boundary Avenue
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
		7.00pm	Officers & Trustees Meeting in the Vestry
WEDS	20th	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Home Group
THURS	21st	6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
		7.30pm	Y-Not Youth Club
SAT	23rd	10.00am	Coffee Morning
TUES	26th	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 15 Fern Road
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
		7.30pm	Crafty Creations
WEDS	27th	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Home Group
THURS	28th	6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
		7.30pm	Y-Not Youth Club
SAT	30th	10.00am	Coffee Morning & Christmas Lights Switch-on
			Activities in the hall all day



NOVEMBER 2019

Sundays at HIGH STREET

SUNDAY **3rd** 10.45am Rev. Phil Hearson
(incl. Communion)

4.00pm **Service of Light**
– followed by tea and cakes

SUNDAY **10th** 10.45am Rev. Phil Hearson
(Remembrance Sunday)

4.00pm **Messy Church!**

SUNDAY **17th** 10.45am Rev. Phil Hearson

SUNDAY **24th** 9.45am **Breakfast for all**

10.45am **'Come & See' Toy Service**
Informal Church

6.00pm Service at Wymington
– Rev. Ian Fall

a reminder...

Should you ever find it difficult to join us for any service you wish to attend please don't hesitate to speak to either the minister or a church leader about arranging a lift, we are always happy to sort something out - **don't miss out!**



My Christmas Wish

It's that time of year again when we start to collect gifts of toys/gifts suitable for any age child from a baby to a teenager, either new or 'as good as new.' No need to wrap them in Christmas paper, as we will only have to unwrap them again.

This starts with the Toy Service on 24th November, then we continue to collect and after this date invite people to drop gifts into Simpson and Weekley Estate Agent, High Street, Rushden.

From now on until the middle of December we are contacting schools, churches, Parent/Toddler groups, Food bank and other places where families go to ask professionals to give out invitations to vulnerable families to invite them to a coffee morning where they can choose gifts to give to their child at Christmas.

We can also accept baby equipment, baby/children's clothes, Christmas food items eg Selection boxes, Christmas biscuits, Mince pies, Christmas chocolate and financial gifts. (Money is usually spent on buying Primark vouchers to give to teenagers from the families).

We are now in our 5th year. This is always a lovely initiative to be part of and to help families who find it a struggle at Christmas time.

I know that you will all be so generous as you usually are and so we thank you in advance for your kindness to others.

Jeanette Maddams and Mark Weekley
My Christmas Wish Organisers



bible verses for the month

Isaiah 43 v 1 - 3(a)

My child, never forget the things I have taught you. Store my commands in your heart.

Israel, the Lord who created you says,
"Do not be afraid—I will save you.
I have called you by name—you are mine.
When you pass through deep waters,
I will be with you;
your troubles will not overwhelm you.
When you pass through fire, the hard trials
that come will not hurt you.
For I am the Lord your God,
the holy God of Israel, who saves you.

in a fog?

November is the month that in my mind is forever associated with fog. Growing up in a mining village, where everyone had a coal fire and chimneys spouted dark smoke all day long, we used to get some real 'pea-soupers' in November. Sometimes it was so thick the buses would stop running and we would be sent home early from school. Thankfully with the introduction of smoke-free zones we don't have so many thick fogs now, but I still miss a coal fire.

Sometimes in life it can feel as if we are in a bit of a fog. Nothing seems straightforward anymore and we don't know which way to turn. We lose our sense of clarity and our mind seems befuddled. We have decisions to make but we are uncertain and hesitant. It feels like driving in a fog.

We all experience such times, so what can we do? My advice is to wait patiently for the fog to lift, which it will do in time. Don't rush into making any decisions until you are clear, especially important ones. Waiting requires not only patience, but trust. Trust that God is still with you, even if you can't feel His presence, or hear His voice. He will not leave you or abandon you, and is aware of your need.

The wise St Ignatius said that we should never doubt in the darkness what God had told us in the light. When you are in a fog hold on to what God had already given you, to the truth of His word. Eventually the fog will disperse, and a new day will dawn for you, when you can clearly see the way ahead.

Rev. Tony Horsfall Parishpump.co.uk



birthdays THIS MONTH

If you would like to be included please let Jeanette know and we'll endeavour to get a card to you on the Sunday nearest the date, giving us all the chance to wish one another all the best on our birthdays.

- 6th - **ELSIE KEECH**
- 8th - **JOYCE MOISEY**
- 17th - **LILY BLAKE**
- 17th - **KATH MOISEY**
- 22nd - **EMBER SMITH**
- 23rd - **LIZZIE WEBB**
- 24th - **CAROLINE FINDLAY-LINE**



flowers THIS MONTH

Many thanks to the following who have offered to give flowers and of course to Jane and Madge who have arranged the rota. A new one for 2020 will soon be compiled so if you would like to be included but aren't at present please see Jane.

- 3rd **MADGE TRUSLER**
- 10th **VACANT**
- 17th **VACANT**
- 24th **ELSIE KEECH** *(in memory of Susan)*



Christmas Crafty Creations

Following our first successful night, we'll be getting together again on **Tuesday 26th November at 7.30pm.**

There will be several seasonal crafts to take part in, and of course lots of coffee / tea and biscuits, and maybe some mince pies too! Come along, bring your friends and 'have a go' – no experience necessary! See you there...



GLOW Christmas angels

Just a reminder - could everyone who offered to knit angels, please hand them in to me by Nov 10th. We at **GLOW** are going to put labels on them ready for distribution round the town during Advent.

Thank you. Caroline Findlay-Line



dates for your diary - DECEMBER 2019

- SUNDAY 8th** School Choir Visit (10.45am) and Christmas Messy Church (4.00pm)
- SUNDAY 22nd** Sunday School Nativity (10.45am) and Lessons & Carols followed by tea (4.00pm)
- TUESDAY 24th** Christingle Service (4.00pm)
- WEDNESDAY 25th** Christmas Day Service with the Mission Church – at High Street (10.30am)
- SUNDAY 29th** Christmas Breakfast and 'Come & See' (9.45am)



PUZZLE PAGE

This month it's a cryptic towns and cities in the UK puzzle. Work out the following and hand in your answers before 1st December and you may win a small prize. You don't need to get them all – just do your best.

1. Modern fortress
2. Ship's company
3. Tumbler departs
4. Cook's meadow
5. Ding-dong quickly
6. Detectives need these
7. Which car?
8. Someone who is leaving
9. How do you eat dangerous cheese?
10. Town with a blemish
11. Destroyed the pig meat
12. Store the fortified wine
13. A new door needs...
14. Chef's advice
15. Colourful vehicle
16. Noah's home rebuilt
17. Ten the fire
18. Cover completely
19. He brought us sunshine
20. Part of a ship

Answers to last month:

ACROSS:

1. Barthlomew; 9. Evil one; 10. Adore; 11. Ran; 13. Oreb; 16. Zinc; 17. Entail; 18. Hung; 20. Lehi; 21. Joshua; 22. Pity; 23. Wide; 25. Age; 28. Alarm; 29. Partake; 30. Senacherib.

DOWN:

2. Alive; 3. Took; 4. Over; 5. Onan; 6. Emotive; 7. Jehoshaphat; 15. Strong; 19. Not have; 20. Law; 24. Iraqi; 25. Amen; 26. Epic; 27. Free.

Contacts:

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High Street Independent Wesleyan Church



www.weschurchrushden.org.uk