

Notes from the PCC Meeting on Monday

The Subsiding Floor in the Lounge and Kitchen Area:

The structural engineer has drilled and tested and produced his report. Even after that we still don't know exactly why we have this problem. We have been aware that the ground has been sinking round the building for fifteen years. The church rests on Oxford clay and subsidence is common in this area.



The good news is that there is no fundamental problem with the foundations or the external walls. They go deeper and rest on the bedrock so the building is secure. There is no need to act urgently.

We have various options in front of us from self levelling screed to underground grouting which would undergird the slab. There is value in assessing the situation and PCC has decided to wait for 6-9 months to see if the floor stops sinking, and to seek the advice of the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) in determining which option or options finally to pursue.

In Andrew's Memory: Andrew's family have asked PCC to allow them to place a stained glass window in the church room in his memory. As a member of the clergy for 20 years, treasurer for over thirty years and almost a member of St John's from its earliest days, the PCC felt it was right that his life should be honoured.

Nothing can be done quickly. Such a window would require a faculty. This is a special permission which churches must have to make changes of this kind. The DAC will need to be persuaded that the window is in keeping with the church's design and appearance. The family and PCC will talk together with them in the months that lie ahead until we can agree a fitting tribute to Andrew.

The Treasurer: Andrew would be the first to say that he was not irreplaceable. Nevertheless, we always know that replacing him as treasurer would not be easy. We have a number of people covering the treasurer's role at present in one form or another—but we have no treasurer in place. That situation can only last so long. We are currently moving Andrew's paper ledger to Excel to make it the task easier for the new treasurer. Thanks to Tony Nash we have a draft budget for next year.

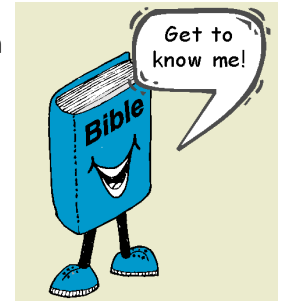
Thank you to all who helped us with our service at St Francis. Lots of parents and children joined us. We look forward to further

St John's @ St. Francis services in the future.

Bible Exhibition October 11th at St Francis' School

We often regret the fact that so many children in Britain don't get the opportunity to hear the stories of the Bible from those who really believe them and shape their lives by them. Our links with St Francis' school mean we can do something about that.

We don't need you to preach, but we do need you to help. Jem Hudson teaches the **Big Story of the Bible** to children in various parts of the UK and he is coming to St Francis on Thursday October 11.



Jem gives each year group an overview of the **Big Story of the Bible** in 45 mins. Then they have a chance to take part in a Bible Quiz, dress in Bible times clothes and taste 'Bible' foods.

There are two sessions and the times are: **9:00am to 11.45am and 1:00pm– 3.30pm**

The helpers are needed to hand out the quiz packs and assist with the answers which can be found on his large display boards. They can help the children to dress up and to serve and over-see the food tasting.

About four of the helpers need to be willing to dress up in role as a Bible character and read a short script. This is about half of it:



DANIEL: Hi folks! How would you feel if you were put in a lion's cage, with not just one, but 5 hungry, roaring lions? I'm Daniel, and a governor in the Kingdom of Babylon, even though I'm a Jew. Many of us Jewish people were brought here as captives from our homeland.

Other governors became jealous of me, and hatched a plot to have me thrown into the lion's den. They persuaded King Darius to pass a law that stated that if anyone prayed to any god except the king for 30 days, they would be thrown into the lion's den. Poor Darius! He was so upset when I was found praying to the Living God there in my home, as I always did.

Harvest Sunday is Next Week



We will be joined by members of various uniformed organisations on both Harvest and Remembrance Sunday. Don't forget to bring any non-perishable foods for Swindon Food Collective, they say, "we always need fruit juice, tinned fruit, tinned meat, tinned tomatoes, small bags of sugar, tinned potatoes, tinned puddings, some jars of coffee, toiletries and long life milk".

Prayers: **Kath Ridley's Mother-in-Law, Linda** is still very unwell. Please keep praying for **Kath** and her husband **Harry** at this very anxious time. **Sarah Barton** who has been poorly and is having some tests. **Richard Gray** is progressing well—we give thanks to God for a successful operation after several weeks of anxiety. For the **PCC away day on Saturday (6th)** that it might produce fruit in the months ahead. For those starting university: **Daisy Wheeler** recently began her training as a nurse at Oxford Brookes; **Matt Crosby** is beginning a course in Cardiff. Pray for our Universities and Christian Unions there to be places where people can really deepen their faith and grow in Christ.



Sunday Oct 7

Trinity 19

Mon 8th	9.30-11.30am 2pm	Pram Club Homegroup in Quiet Room
Tues 9th	8pm 8pm	Homegroup at 20 Furlong Close Homegroup at 27 Garraways RWB
Wed 10th	1.00-3.00pm 7.30pm	Craft Club in Church Room Homegroup at 17 Rother Close
Fri 12th	10.30am-1.30pm	Rock Café

There will be a **Collection for the Indonesian Tsunami disaster** this morning.



Please pray for our church family	
Mon 8th	Peter & Grace Burrett
Tue 9th	Richard & Christine Burston
Wed 10th	Susana Calle Martin
Thurs 11th	Donald & Daphne Carter
Fri 12th	Cecille Cobcobo
Sat 13th	Joan Connor
Sun 14th	Laurane Cooper

Early warning: Filling Station

Our next Filling Station will be **20th December**.

Please put this date in your diary and let Mary know if you are likely to be away. This is a demanding time of year but our homeless still desperately need our help. The envelopes will be out in plenty of time. Thank you. **Mary Southgate, tel 520973.**

We shall morph indeed!

Services Next Week			
14th Oct	9am	Holy Communion 1662	Raymond Adams
	11am	All Age Service	Raymond Adams

Time	Service	Preacher	Readings
9.00am	Holy Communion	Raymond Adams	Ephesians 3: 1-13 Luke 8:26-39
11.00am	Morning Praise	Raymond Adams	Numbers 20: 1-13 Luke 8:26-39

Parish Office Email: parishoffice@stjohnshaydonwick.org.uk or Telephone 726000. All items for the bulletin to the office in writing by first thing on Thursday. Thank you.