

CROSSROAD NEWSLETTER

Matthew 28:18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **19** Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **20** and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Join us every Sunday morning at Crossroad for coffee from 10.15 or online at www.crossroad.org.uk

Sundays @ 10.45

3rd Aug - John Billingham

10th Aug - Louise Sibley

17th Aug - Jon Sibley

24th Aug - Jibu Varghese

31st Aug - Jon Sibley

Prayer

We meet for **prayer** every Sunday 9.45am - 10.15am in the youth hall.

Prayer for Israel and All Nations Tuesday 5th Aug at 10am at Crossroad.

Christians Together in Seaton Prayer Meeting every Tuesday from 9am-10am at St Gregory's church.

Sunday Evening Prayer 31st Aug at 6.30pm.

The Loft

The Loft meets 10am - 12 every Sunday morning at Number One. It is a creative church for those who are growing in their faith or who are just looking. There is lots of tea, toast and time for each other as well as getting excited about Jesus. An opportunity for creativity and prayer completes the morning.

My Father is the Gardener

*"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. **2** He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful." John 15:1-2*

We do love our gardens in the UK and this is the time of year when our gardens can be at their best. The flowers are at the height of their summer blooming, our vegetables are beginning to come on stream and supply food for our tables and our fruit trees are promising much fruit to come. At this time of year there is no better place to be than in an English garden especially in this hot and sunny weather. If we don't have our own gardens then we are spoilt for choice for others to visit. You probably have your favourite but one of our favourites is Tintinhull Garden near Martock - it's a glorious English flower and vegetable garden run by the National Trust.

It's no surprise then, that one of my favourite sayings of Jesus is the metaphor he uses for his Father - 'My Father is the gardener'. Here Jesus is encouraging us to think of our Heavenly Father as a gardener who tends and cares for his garden and his plants. A good gardener looks to encourage growth, beauty, and fruit in their garden. And a garden will generally reflect the care that has been put into it. In the same way our Heavenly Father is tending to us. We are planted in good soil, pruned and pared for good works and watered for maximum growth and much fruit. How are we doing? Are we growing and being fruitful? I hope so.

This month, on a Sunday morning, we are looking at what it means for our Heavenly Father to be our gardener. Together we are going to dig deeper into scripture, allow others to water and see God bring the increase in our lives.

Thank you and please pray for Rwanda

I would like to say a HUGE thank you to everyone who has made it possible for us to be able to provide printed Bibles for so many Deaf students in Rwanda, alongside the audio Bibles we will also be providing for disabled people. I am incredibly grateful to each one of you.

For your prayers...from August 25th - 31st Through the Roof will have a week of events taking place in Rwanda, hosted by local pastors and reaching out to disabled people and their families, church leaders and community leaders, and including Deaf students and sign language training.

Please pray for the whole week of events which will bring God's love and the message of hope to those who are so often overlooked and marginalised. Pray in particular for the Bibles that will be given out - that they will bring the life-giving Word of God to those who need it so greatly. We pray that many lives will be transformed.

Janet Eardley

Times of Refreshing

What refreshes me? Where do I find joy? In my youth, many of our family holidays were spent in Wales – usually in fairly remote cottages. I love the sound of running water and my mind now goes to a mountain stream, the cool, bright water tumbling and dancing over rocks and boulders. Occasionally there is a deep, still pool (what treasures lie there, hidden in the dark waters?). But then the stream goes rushing, tumbling on again, gaining momentum, down towards the valley where it will flow into a larger, quieter river. I look out over the landscape – the scrubby hillside, the smooth, green fields in the valley below, the misty mountains in the distance. Where are you, Lord, in all of this?

“Yes, child, that’s it exactly. I am in all of it! And so are you – there are times for singing and dancing like the waters cascading from the top of the mountain. I love you in those times when you worship me and we can dance together. There are also times to join with the wider river that flows towards the sea, when you can be still in me; meditate, soak, study, read. Then there are times to look further ahead and begin to climb the mountains on the other side of the valley. Sometimes the way may be stoney, sometimes steep. You may even look up at the crags and say, “I can’t do this, it’s too hard.” But remember that you are never alone. Wherever you are on this journey, I am right there beside you. You know that I have promised never to leave or forsake you. I love it when we spend time together because I delight in you and you are lovely.”

The author wishes to remain anonymous but wanted to encourage us with this article

This month:

Every Sunday - we meet for *prayer* at 9.45-10.15am or join us for *coffee* from 10.15 and for the *Family Service* from 10.45am.

Homegroups - We have a number of home groups meeting during the week including the ones below. We would love as many people as possible to be part of a group. If you would like to join a home group please speak to one of the leaders.

Tue 2.00pm Jill Purkiss,

Tue 7.30pm Rosie Giles,

Tue 2.00pm Ray and Jacci Hunter

Wed 2.30pm Axminster Homegroup

Coffee Morning - takes a break for August but returns in September.

Kids Club Summer Week - Mon 28th July - Fri 1st August from 10am -12noon at Crossroad. For kids about to go into years 3 - 7. Come and join us for a week of fun.

Big Church Picnic - Sun 10th August 11am - 4pm at Pecorama. Come along and enjoy fun, fellowship and worship. Bring your own picnic; train ride; art activities; outdoor play areas; table tennis; 3pm worship together. **Booking Essential!**

Anna's Place - Wed 20th August 2pm at St Michael's Church, Beer. A special 30 minute service for older people followed by refreshments, music and memories. All are welcome - Dementia Supportive - Come and receive God's grace.

Crossroad Men's Breakfast - Sat 6th Sept 8am. Come along and enjoy a good breakfast, good fellowship and a great talk.

Quiz Night - Monday 15th September 7pm at Crossroad. Join us for a quiz night and evening of fun and fundraising. £3 per head and maximum of six per team. Come as a team or join one on the evening. All welcome. Prize for winning team.

Foodbank needs - Long-life whole and semi-skimmed milk; Instant potato; Tins of meat for hot meals - chicken, stew, mince, ravioli, spaghetti bolognese, hot dogs; Tins of cold meat - chicken, Spam, ham, corned beef; Savoury rice packets (the flavoured, not plain); Tinned sardines; Sponge puddings; Tinned Custard; Sugar; Small jars of coffee; Washing powder or liquid; Washing up liquid; Small shampoo; Toothpaste

Access for Everyone - We want to make sure everything at Crossroad is as accessible as possible for anyone with sight problems, hearing loss, mobility difficulties, etc. It's important to us that everyone is included in the best way possible in all aspects of church life, including midweek activities. Please come and speak with Janet Eardley or Jon Sibley regarding any access challenges you may be experiencing. We really want to hear from you.

Crossroad Contact

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Food Waste

How can we avoid it?

- ☺ Check the cupboards, fridge, veg rack, fruit bowl before shopping
- ☺ Avoid impulse shopping
- ☺ Try to plan meals ahead
- ☺ Do the 'scan' and 'sniff' test before throwing food away

To think that in the UK, we throw away over 9 million tonnes of food each year. That is enough to feed 30 million people a year. Yet 8.4 million live in food poverty in the UK. Something doesn't smell quite right, does it?

Potatoes, milk, bananas, salads and vegetables are the top 5 most wasted foods. Are they yours too?

Perhaps we could also try to cut out meat, fruit and veg, which come from far flung places and have undertaken quite a journey....do we need peas from Peru?

(Crossroad Eco Church - Eco Tip – August 2025)



Axe Valley Christians Against Poverty

Prayer Guide : August 2025



www.capuk.org

Thank you for using these prayers and praises to inform and assist you in supporting AVCAP. This month ...

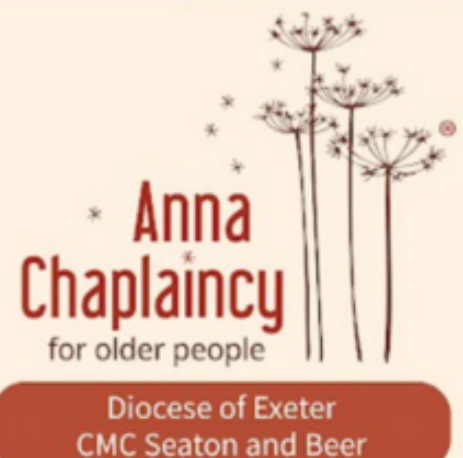
- Sharon is holding a Befrienders event on Friday, 25th July, which will include some extra training. Please continue to pray for more Befrienders, and that these wonderful people will become increasingly confident to meet clients on their own without the support of the Debt Coaches. Please seek the Lord's wisdom as to how best to deal with this.
- Give thanks for a great Team Meeting in July and especially as we welcomed a new Team member, Lindsay, who will be looking after Hospitality and Fundraising. Please continue to pray for someone to take on Grant Applications, as these can take up a lot of time. Pray that the imminent application to Seaton Town Council for £1,000 will be successful.
- Give thanks that Sharon has four talks to local churches booked over the next few months, and pray that these will result in more individual supporters joining AVCAP and particularly for more churches to become sponsors, boosting our regular income.
- Please pray for families now the School Holidays are here. Give thanks that in this lovely part of the world there is opportunity for youngsters to play outside, but pray for their safety and for affordable alternatives to be available if the weather is wet. Pray blessings on Christian holiday clubs that seek to entertain children, but more importantly teach them about Jesus.
- Please pray for clients who are in arrears with their rents and that agreed Payment Plans can be set up to help them deal with this.
- Give grateful thanks to the Lord for another young family recently becoming debt free due to their Debt Management Plan. So far this year, there have been 4 clients who have become debt free – praise the Lord!
- Please pray for a client whose son recently lost his business due to financial difficulties, making the family homeless. We prayed that EDDC would re-house them, and have since heard that they are able to remain in their home. Give thanks for this miracle!
- Having a very low income is hardship enough, but when retirement looms with doubt about the level of pension income, that is yet another burden to bear. Please pray for one client to whom this applies and for patience and guidance with pension applications.
- Please pray for wisdom and courage in “letting go” of clients who strictly speaking no longer need the support of AVCAP, but are nevertheless still very needy. It takes strength of character to step back and allow people to take on responsibility for their own lives.
- Please continue to pray for Alix's health, and for God's guidance as to whether we should look for a third Debt Coach to come on board. This can take at least 6 months, with training etc. However, it will also mean a substantial increase in the funds we need in order to pay these essential (non-voluntary) members of the AVCAP Team.

ANNA'S PLACE

**Special 30 minute
worship for
Older People
Followed by Refreshments
Music and Memories,
Wednesdays from 2pm
at St Michael's, Beer:**

**April 16, May 21, June 18,
July 16, August 20,
September 17, October 22,
November 19, December 17**

**All are welcome!
Dementia Supportive
Come, receive
God's Grace**



**Diocese of Exeter
CMC Seaton and Beer**

