

# HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



**SUNDAY 1 AUGUST 2021**  
**TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**A DANGEROUS FAITH – ST STEPHEN'S DAY**

## COMING UP

To join us on Zoom, please use the link below.

<https://adcg.zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRlI0Zz09>

Meeting ID: [882 096 2366](https://adcg.zoom.us/j/8820962366)

Password: 033643

## SUNDAY 1 AUGUST

ST STEPHEN'S DAY

Seating limited to 75 people per service.

Sign in using Check In CBR App required

8am Holy Communion

10am Holy Communion

Celebrant :

The Rev'd Dr Wayne Brighton

Preacher:

Venerable (EM) Anne Ranse OAM

3.30pm—Colours of God (Rainbow

Fellowship)

5pm—Youth Alpha

## SUNDAY 8 AUGUST

Seating limited to 75 people per service.

Sign in using Check In CBR App required

8am Holy Communion

10am Holy Communion

Celebrant and Preacher:

The Rev'd Dr Wayne Brighton

Preacher:

5pm—Twilight Conversations

## Coming up

Thur 5 August — 7.00pm Digital Life for Families

## Bank Details for Direct Debit are:

Bank: Commonwealth Bank

Branch: Jamison Centre, ACT

BSB: 062 907

A/C No: 802588

Name: Holy Covenant Anglican Church

Our readings tell the story of a faith that was, and remains, dangerous and unpopular to those with power. Particularly if you actually do what God asks of you.

The Old Testament reading gives the account of the attempts of the priest Zechariah to call people and their king back to worshipping the Lord at the temple. He was killed for his efforts. Just one generation earlier, the very same king had worked with Zechariah's father to rebuild the temple. How easily people forget.

In the Gospel reading, Jesus warned his disciples of the danger and hatred the world has for those who choose to follow his way. The reading from Acts exemplified the dangers. Stephen, who was "full of faith and the Holy Spirit," was selected to be one of the church's first deacons, tasked with feeding and caring for the widows. He put God's call into action. The Gospel kept on spreading and even religious leaders were coming to believe - perhaps because the church was living what it believed?

I was invited by a friend to attend a dinner with 'political people' on Sunday night. I enjoyed wonderful conversation with these new acquaintances. I spoke about my role at Holy Covenant and some of the people I have met. I told the story of a local single mother who gets no support from the government and has found it incredibly difficult to find a job. The next day I had a phone call from one participant, asking to pay for

her gas bills because she "recognised how fortunate she was to be able to go home to a warm house," and my words had "brought attention to the difficulties faced by many in our neighbourhood." The Spirit is alive and well in Belconnen, blowing the winds of the Gospel movement.

Stephen was hauled before the Sanhedrin, the highest legal, legislative and judicial body among the Jews, and killed. He was stoned to death for calling out the failure of God's chosen people who had been given the law, the Temple and the promise of the coming Messiah. In his death, Stephen forgave his enemies. His death became a generative and healing way like the Jesus whom he followed, not calling for retaliation or reciprocal violence but repentance, change and growth.

When we choose to live lives that display care and action God's teaching of love to the world, we can become a target of those who benefit from the way things are. When we don't label, judge or punish others, we can open up opportunities for outsiders, even at the risk of becoming outsiders ourselves. This can make following the Gospel sometimes difficult and uncomfortable.

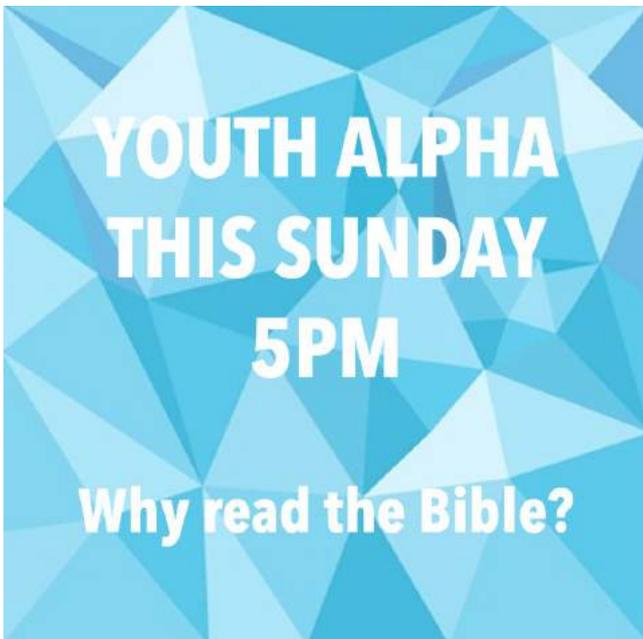
The feast of Stephen is traditionally celebrated on Boxing Day, the day after Christmas. It's a striking message that the putting of words and faith into action can be dangerous indeed.

*Wendy Robertson*

**RECTOR:** The Reverend Dr Wayne Brighton, 0407 408 333, [rector@holycovenant.org.au](mailto:rector@holycovenant.org.au)

**OFFICE:** 6251 6100, [office@holycovenant.org.au](mailto:office@holycovenant.org.au)

**WEBSITE:** <https://www.holycovenant.org.au>



### NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

At the July meeting, Parish Council:

- discussed the importance of embedding our parish plan into the life of the parish, including how to commence funding and implementing activities such as renovating the Rainbow Centre and increasing the hours of our community chaplain.
- approved disbursement of our wider works giving for charities we had agreed to support for three years: Embracing Ministries, Tikondane, Companion House, St John's Care, ABM and Equal Voices.
- continued to explore renovations to the Rainbow Centre. The purpose of the renovation is to ensure that there is suitable space for activities such as children's church, given the ongoing Covid restrictions. We are applying for a Disability Inclusion grant to assist in construction of the accessible bathroom and are seeking volunteers to assist in preparing the application.
- requested that the Resources Committee prepare an asset management plan of our site so that we have a good understanding of maintenance and replacement requirements coming up in the next few years

*Joh Sheehan  
Parish Council Chair*

### PRAY TO THE LORD OF PEACE

*Let us pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.  
(The Lord's Prayer)*

For time immemorial prayers have been said to God from all corners of the earth. Prayers of the faithful, and in hope and trust they have been laid before the Lord. We know prayer makes a difference, we know prayer changes things, but sometimes we can be in a place of doubt.

I read this lovely fable which you may know: 'Tell me the weight of a snowflake.' A coal mouse asked the white dove. 'Nothing more than nothing' came the answer. In that case I must tell you a marvelous story the coal mouse said. 'I sat on a branch of a fir tree, close to its trunk, when it began to snow. Since I had nothing else to do, I counted the snow flakes settling on the twigs and needles of my branch. The number was 3,741,952. When the next snow flake dropped on the branch – 'nothing more than nothing' as you say – the branch broke off. The dove, an authority on the matter since Noah's time, thought about the story awhile and finally said to herself: 'perhaps there is only one person's voice lacking for peace to come into the world.'

May the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in all ways.

Anne, servant of the Lord

<https://comewalkwithme-reflections.blogspot.com>



Fir tree – Peace

## OUR PARISH PLAN

We all have a story to tell. Holy Covenant's story is one of stretching to meet the needs of our community.

In July, we explored the parish's vision, values and mission. We believe that encouraging people to become what God created them to be by using their ability, age, gender, orientation and ethnicity will enable us to grow. Parish Council and the ministry team want to know what you think. What inspires your journey with God? How we can help? As 2022 arrives, the parish will need to find ways to fund the Community Chaplain. Your generous response will help enormously. We are also looking to renovate the Rainbow Centre. Concept plans are being developed and community grants are being sourced. We envisage:

- creating an accessible bathroom (anyone in a wheelchair presently needs to leave the building, cross the carpark and enter the worship centre - try that when you're busting!)
- removing internal walls between yellow, purple and rear office that would create a large open space suitable for kids church; and
- add some decking to make it an inviting and dynamic space that works with our gardens.

All this will not be possible without your prayerful support. It will be a stretch to close the \$43,200 budget gap and provide for the renovations. Your help and generosity will make all the difference. At the end of the bulletin is a response sheet. It provides some questions for you to think about. If you want to know more; get involved with a particularly activity; or make a gift to support our growth, there are a few things you could do.

- make a time for a coffee - because I'd love to hear your thoughts
- fill out the back panel, place it in the bowl during the greeting of peace, where it will be collected and placed on the altar at Communion;
- fill out the back panel and return it to the office when you have time.

Your prayers, help and generosity strengthen us as we seek to help our neighbourhood thrive

*Wayne*

# DIGITAL LIFE FOR FAMILIES

recovering, reclaiming, regaining  
connectedness

a conversation with Toni Hassan  
journalist, author and parent

THURSDAY  
5 AUGUST, 7pm



HOLY COVENANT  
ANGLICAN CHURCH  
89 Dexter Street, Cook  
<https://www.trybooking.com/BSWJD>

## SILENT AUCTION

Thanks to all who bid at the silent auction!

Proceeds from the silent auction will be \$3400 (last year \$2000)

*Paul Shelley*  
Treasurer

## ANSD Quiet Day with Rev Linda Chapman Saturday 28 August 2021 | 9.30 am to 3pm

In this Quiet Day we will bring our attention to a relationship between contemplation and self-compassion in the context of our often busy lives. To rest in contemplation, we need to bridge the gap between our many expectations of ourselves and the reality of who we are in any given moment. Compassion opens the contemplative space of the heart, where giving flows from receiving, doing is born of being, where effort is fed by grace.

**Please RSVP by Friday 20 August to [ansdact@gmail.com](mailto:ansdact@gmail.com)**

**Venue:** Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, 15 Blackall St, Barton, Canberra (off Kings Ave, parking available). This event is subject to Zoom delivery or cancellation, depending on health advice or social/travel restrictions at the time.

**Cost:** \$30 (cash only on the day) Electronic transfer to "Australian Network for Spiritual Direction" | BSB 032-719 | Account 301 994 | Reference: SurnameQD

### FIELD RESEARCH PROJECT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

I am a mature age student currently completing the Graduate Diploma of Counselling and Integrated Psychotherapy (Spiritual) with the Australian Institute of Family Counselling (aifc).

As a part of my studies, I am required to undertake a Field Research Project. I will be looking at the value of psychoeducation about worry and general anxiety, including management strategies, in order to help carers cope better with carer burden.

To be able to carry out this Research Project I require:

- Six informal or family carers prepared to attend six group psychoeducation sessions over a six week period
- Each session will run for approx. 1 – 1.5 hours; there will be homework which will take about half an hour each week
- Commencing early August, 2021

I will meet with each participant individually prior to commencing the project to outline what is involved, and discuss the necessary paperwork, for example confidentiality and informed consent. This will also provide an opportunity to answer any questions so each person participating will have a sound understanding of what will be involved in the project.

If you would like to participate, and/or know of other carers who may be interested in these psychoeducation sessions, and would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact me on either 6251 0345 or 0421 606 665.

I will be happy to discuss this further with you and clarify any queries you may have.

Thank you,

Anne McDowell

[anne@scma.info](mailto:anne@scma.info)

Embracing Ministries, together with Luke 14 CBM are pleased to present:

“Inclusion Toolbox for Kids and Teens”

Saturday 14th August

1:30 - 5:00pm

St Mary in the Valley Church

Calwell ACT

Children and teenagers with disabilities, and their families, rightly look to Churches and Christian community groups for acceptance and belonging. At the same time, leaders and those in ministry areas are seeking help to ensure their activities and programs cater for all. This workshop assists churches and community groups to engage practically with this vital area of Christian community and church life and ministry.

CBM is an international Christian development organisation devoted to improving the lives of people with disabilities in the poorest places on earth. The Luke 14 Workshops offered by CBM are designed to equip churches with practical ideas, skills and strategies for including people with disabilities. Luke14 workshops are not designed to make people “disability experts,” but to understand practical ways to accommodate different needs in the church

If you or a member of your church would like to attend this workshop, please book your place by contacting Andrea via email [info@embracingministries.org](mailto:info@embracingministries.org) or Mobile: 0404 256 714.

### DIRRUM FESTIVAL

Radford College students are hosting the annual Dirrum Festival on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> August. Great speakers, musicians, local businesses and stalls. More information and tickets for coming in person on the Radford campus or streaming the event can be found here: <https://www.dirrumfestival.org/cbr21>

Jahzeel Campbell, the warden at All Saints College, will be sharing his poetry and dance on Friday 6<sup>th</sup>. An event not to be missed!

### HAWKER MEN'S LUNCHEON FORUM

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarterly Men's Luncheon Forum for 2021 will feature Dr Jon Clarke, a professional and academic geologist who is also deeply engaged in astrobiology, planetary science and space exploration, as well as a committed Christian. Previously engaged in university work and employed by Geoscience Australia, he is now working with Human Aerospace Pty Ltd developing Martian EVA suits, and will be speaking to us on "My life on Mars", including how his Christian faith has informed and motivated his life's work.

Also as usual, the luncheon will be at the **Birrigai Café, Kangara Waters** (close to Belconnen Town Centre), meeting as usual in our 11.45am-2pm time-slot on **Monday 9 August**, at \$27 a head for a 2-course meal plus tea/coffee. The event will start at noon with a presentation from Jon, with the meal being served at about 12.25pm. RSVPs to Bruce Hooley (6251-7124; [brucehooley.1@bigpond.com](mailto:brucehooley.1@bigpond.com)) by **Thursday 5 August** would be appreciated please!

*Patrick Cole*

### DINNER CLUB

1st Tuesday of the Month

Is meeting on 3rd August at 6pm

Good Food! Good Company! Good Vibrations!

At the Southern Cross Club in Jamison

Please confirm attendance with Hilary 62518166

### WIFI IN THE RAINBOW CENTRE

Improved Wifi is now available in the Rainbow Centre.

You will need to use the following network:

“HCA Rainbow Centre”

And our standard wifi password

## THE MINISTRY OF A DEACON

Deacons can be found in many places:

- ⇒ Chaplaincy, schools, aged care, hospitals, armed forces, police, ambulance and fire services
- ⇒ Children and youth ministry
- ⇒ Play groups
- ⇒ With the homeless
- ⇒ Community Gardens
- ⇒ House bound people
- ⇒ People in community housing
- ⇒ In the work place
- ⇒ Pastoral Care
- ⇒ With the elderly
- ⇒ In the sanctuary on a Sunday
- ⇒ In the community during the week



*I am amongst you  
as one who serves.*

*Luke 22:27*

A deacon serves Christ in the community caring for those who are on the edge of the community and/or the church compared to a priest who leads up a church community guiding and leading a congregation in their faith journey.

Is what you do as a part of your church community activities serving others and serving Christ?

Perhaps you are just contemplating what you can do in your church community or you may want to go deeper into what you are already doing?

Have you ever thought of enquiring about the Diaconate, the permanent ministry of a deacon?

If you would like to explore these questions further contact Wayne (0407 408 333) or Anne (0406 379 599) would be more than pleased to have a chat.

## PRAYER POINTS

### IN THE WORLD

⇒ For those who hunger for freedom, for justice, for release from poverty and disease; for all who struggle for the peace and welfare of the world. When we are greedy and take what is not ours, when we stockpile food while others starve, put a right spirit within use, that we may share with justice the resources of the earth and feed your hungry people

### IN AUSTRALIA

⇒ for all those living in abusive relationships that they may be know God's care and experience health and healing, wholeness and strength, calmness and peace

### IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

⇒ The Anglican Church of Australia  
⇒ The Primate, Archbishop Geoffrey Smith  
⇒ The General Synod, Standing Committee, Boards, Committees and Commissions  
⇒ The Bishops' Office  
⇒ Diocesan Registrar/General Manager  
⇒ Anglican Investment Development Fund  
⇒ Bushfire Recovery Chaplains  
⇒ Pray for: The people affected by the bushfires, floods and cyclones; all dealing with Covid-19 and associated vaccinations; and for the strengthening of relationships between the twenty-three Dioceses of the Australian Anglican Church, the development of our life and witness as a National Church, and for our ecumenical relationships. For the half year ahead and the Bishop's vision intentionally sharing the good news of Jesus with our world.

### IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

⇒ Congregations—8am Sunday  
⇒ Children's Ministry  
⇒ Parish Council/Wardens  
⇒ Holistic Care Nursing Ministries— for the clients of Covenant Care that they continue to enjoy their day at Covenant Care that not only gives them a day with a difference but also allows their carer a day's respite from caring and we hold in our prayer with gratitude the dedicated, faithful volunteers in their loyalty to Covenant Care and clients.  
We also pray for the HCNM clients in the community with their daily challenges that they will have courage to face each day and all it holds.  
⇒ Rainbow Playgroup  
⇒ Lids4Kids  
⇒ For all members of our parish family including David and Margaret Meggs; Rod and Ann Menzies; Christine Mitchell; Jenelle, Denis and Simon Mitchell.  
⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer including Barry Button, Elizabeth Grant, Judith Ann, Bev Barnes, Anne and Peter Bazeos, Violet Hart, Brianna Smith, Lucia Horciu and Kerin Cox and anyone known to us personally.

## BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

**Monday:** Pam Lane

**Wednesday:** Bryan McGuinness

**Saturday:** Iona Brighton

## COLLECT for St Stephen's Day

O God,

by whose grace your servant Stephen became a burning and shining light in your church: grant that we also may be aflame with the spirit of love and discipleship, and walk before you as children of light; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen**

## READINGS

2 Chronicles 24:17-22

Psalm 31:1-8

Acts 6:1-10 and 7:54-60

Matthew 10:17-22

## MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

### Children's Worker

Wendy Robertson 0481458037  
children@holycovenant.org.au

### Youth Leadership Team

Tobias, Lou and Remus  
youth@holycovenant.org.au

### Wardens

Deranie Jackson 0408 443 709  
Joh Sheehan 6251 7151  
Allison Cooper-Stanbury 0410 506 231

### Prayer Vine

Rosemary Kennemore  
6251 2009; rkmore@grapevine.com.au

### Belonging and Caring

The Reverend Dr Wayne Brighton  
0407 408 333; rector@holycovenant.org.au

### Curate and Community Chaplain

Wendy Robertson  
0481458037 warobertson4@gmail.com

### Holistic Care Nursing Ministries

#### Program Manager

Rhonda Thorpe  
0487 945 615; nurse@holycovenant.org.au

### Holistic Care Nursing Ministries

#### Program Director and Chaplain

Venerable (EM) Anne Ranse OAM  
0406 379 599; anne.ranse@gmail.com

### Honorary Priests

Reverend Anne Dudzinski  
0413 994 739; annedudzinski@optusnet.com.au

Reverend Connie Gerrity

0429 423 725; connie@gerrity.id.au

### Resources Team

0419 255 002

# finding our future

## our parish plan

### 2021-2024

Everyone has their own reason for coming to church. For some it's about connecting with God or following their passions. For others, church is about healing or renewal. Some come out of obligation. Most are here because it's where we want to be.

Whatever your reason, we all reach up to God with open hands to have more faith, a deeper hope, and richer love. We reach in to build friendships that last through the storms. We reach out to a world that's hungry for love, looking for hope yet uncertain

about faith. We work with others to build a better world. We find that we don't need to carry all that baggage by ourselves.

Holy Covenant is a place for everyone. We are community of friends who can help you to become all that God made you to be. We value inclusion, diversity, compassion, justice and freedom. We welcome all who want to discover, understand and participate in God's kingdom so that our neighbourhood will thrive.

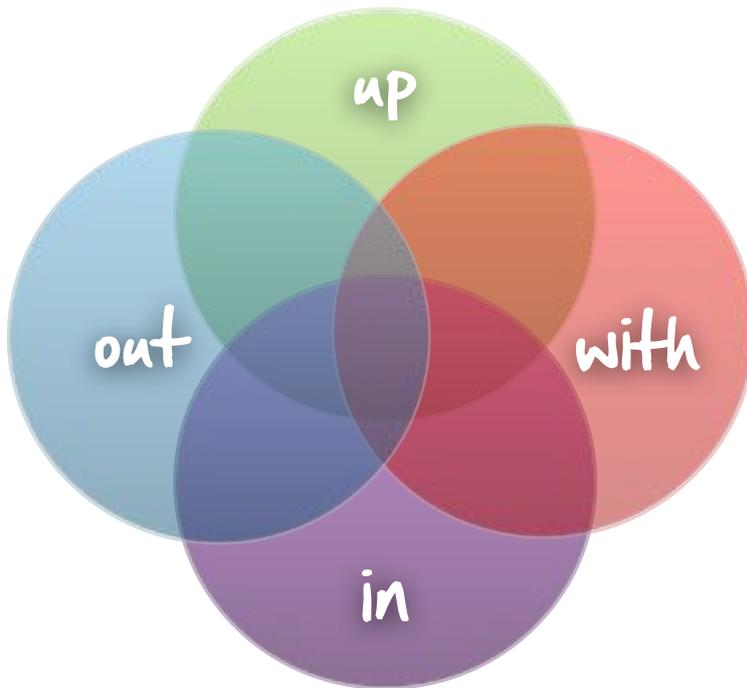
So as you think about God's call, you might want to pray about:

- the future that God wants you to discover
- the seeds that God has planted in you that are waiting to grow
- how might you make a difference by helping or getting involved
- how you can help us redeveloped the Rainbow Centre
- how can we help you to find the faith, hope and love that you are looking for?

<p><i>We grow up into God by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sunday morning services (8 &amp; 10am)</li> <li>• informal evening service (5pm)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wednesday noon service</li> <li>• Colours of God (adults with disabilities)</li> <li>• worship at aged care</li> <li>• Meditation groups</li> </ul>	<p><i>We nurture faith by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kid's church (5-12yrs)</li> <li>• Youth group (13-18ys)</li> <li>• Youth Alpha (13+)</li> <li>• Fruitful Fridays (13+)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring Faith Matters</li> <li>• Monastery of the Heart</li> <li>• Diving Deeper</li> <li>• small groups</li> </ul>
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*We grow by reaching out to others through:*

- Community chaplaincy
- Holistic Care Nursing Ministry
- Pet ministry
- pastoral care through listening, baptism, weddings, funerals



*We grow with our neighbourhood through:*

- Playgroup
- Community garden
- Becoming well (mental health)
- wider works (financial support for other groups like St John's Care)
- environmental and justice programs

*We grow as a community through:*

- camps
- pizza nights
- women's afternoon teas
- men's dinners
- have a good yarn

# my contribution to our future

Yes, I want to help Holy Covenant become a place for everyone so that our church and neighbourhood can thrive.

Name: .....

Contact: .....

I would like to get involved by exploring:

.....  
 .....

I would like to help Holy Covenant grow by making a special gift for:

- the community chaplain  
 renovating the Rainbow Centre  
 another area of ministry .....

	Other amount		\$80
	\$250		\$60
	\$200		\$40
	\$150		\$20
	\$100		\$10

Your generosity makes so many things happen. In 2021 you might wish to consider increasing your weekly giving by 10%.

Giving regularly through an automatic deduction (direct credit) means that the parish can better meet its monthly expenses. Offertories fall behind during the winter months when up to a third of parish members are away either on holiday or due to sporting commitments. Of course, our giving does not stretch like it used to. We encourage those using this method to review it each year.

Offertory envelopes are an important way for regular attenders, who might not feel comfortable with electronic options, to help our church to grow.

You can also make a legacy gift through making a bequest in your will. Gifts of between 1–5% from an estate can allow us to build a trust fund that could yield a regular income stream over time. Such gifts can enable our church to undertake larger projects that would otherwise be beyond our normal capacity to achieve.

	Direct Credit (our details below) Bank - Commonwealth Bank Branch - Jamison Centre, ACT BSB - 062 907 A/C No - 802 588 Name - Holy Covenant Anglican Church
	Offertory envelopes
	Make a legacy gift through a bequest



## A PRAYER FOR MY CHURCH

Good things grow through prayer. You might wish to pray the prayer below, or otherwise commit to praying regularly for our church.

*Generous God,  
 you have given us so much.  
 Everything we have comes from you.  
 Through your goodness we have so much to share.  
 May we who struggle for time make room in our diaries for your kingdom.  
 May we who find change hard make room for new people who may look, sound and act differently.  
 May we discover the wideness, deepness and breadth of your future as your disciple.  
 May all our offerings be used for your glory and for the service of your kingdom.  
 Amen.*