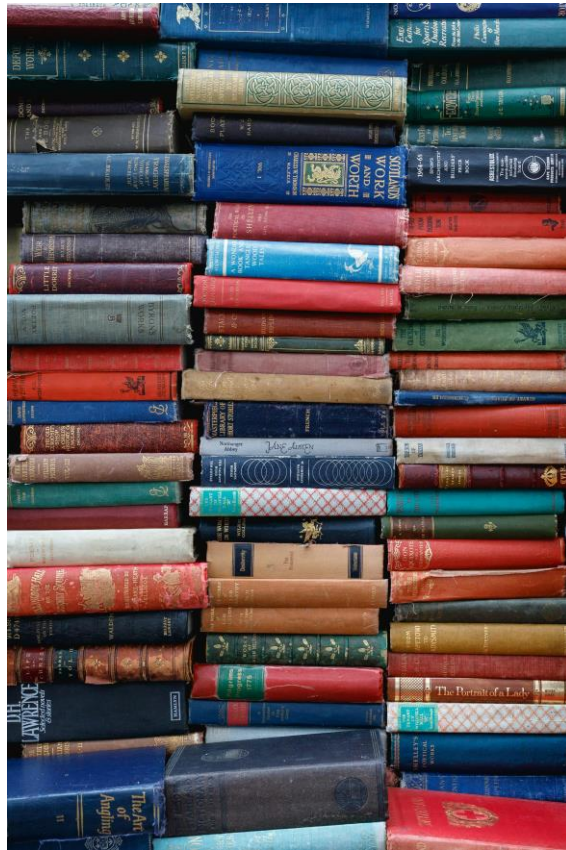


The Mag

October

2024

The monthly magazine from Adeyfield Free Church



Chapter and Verse

From the Editor.....

When we had just moved in to the new building and were putting furniture and fittings in place a couple of us were trying to decide where to put one of the book cases. An observer commented that he didn't know what we were worrying about because no one reads books any more; they only read stuff on-line. I immediately disabused him of that statement. I and many of my friends love and read books. So having been dismissed as no-one we ignored his remarks and continued to stack the shelves we had just erected.

To be able to pick up a book, open it and read without having to use expensive equipment or plug it in, is one of the most wonderful privileges that so many of us take for granted... until, that is, we are unable for some reason to do that simple thing.

Did you have the experience of having to learn poetry or pieces of writing of any kind when you were a child or studying at university. I confess I didn't see the reason for it at the time but since then I have been blessed by being able to recall those learned texts and recite them in my head when appreciating a view, trying to understand a problem or just for the joy of using the language. The most useful and powerful texts to learn and remember, I think, are those from the Bible. They have rescued me on many occasions as I spoke one of them over myself or a friend or situation and seem God move and change things for the better as we remembered His promises in scripture and lived in them.

I wondered if any of you have also got chapters or verses, words from worship songs or songs you hear or sing that have supported, helped or inspired you. Do you ever recall them, use them or cherish them? What are they? Would you like to share them with us? We will see if there is anyone who sends in their thoughts this month.



When I took over editing the church magazine in 2014 I said I would do it for one year with the reservation that it would be truly AFC. By that I meant relevant to AFC and with thoughts and encouragements from AFC regulars. Please let me know if that stillstands. I will continue if that is what is wanted and if articles come in from you all. Many thanks and God bless you in October.

Don't Waste a Day

I remember reading this quote about wasting time in a newspaper I found on a train, quite a long time ago. I wanted to say this came from a great philosopher - but it came from the Hollywood script of a film that had mediocre reviews - 'Holy Man'.

“Seventy-five years. That's how much time you get if you're lucky. Seventy-five years. Seventy-five winters, seventy-five spring-times, seventy-five summers, and seventy-five autumns. When you look at it like that, it's not a lot of time, is it? Don't waste them. Forget about the superficial things that pre-occupy your existence and get back to what's important now”.

This stuck with me, who knows why. Judging by the many 90+ year olds I know, this turned out to be a low estimate, but even with additional years, it is true that time is short and often wasted.

With all this said, I never got around to watching the movie.

Georgina



An over-the-top television evangelist finds a way to turn television home shopping into a religious experience, and takes America by storm.

When You Pray.....

New International Version

Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, “Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain.” And God granted his request.

New Living Translation

He was the one who prayed to the God of Israel, “Oh, that you would bless me and expand my territory! Please be with me in all that I do, and keep me from all trouble and pain!” And God granted him his request.

English Standard Version

Jabez called upon the God of Israel, saying, “Oh that you would bless me and enlarge my border, and that your hand might be with me, and that you would keep me from harm so that it might not bring me pain!” And God granted what he asked.

Amplified Bible

Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, saying, “Oh that You would indeed bless me and enlarge my border [property], and that Your hand would be with me, and You would keep me from evil so that it does not hurt me!” And God granted his request.

Good News Translation

But Jabez prayed to the God of Israel, "Bless me, God, and give me much land. Be with me and keep me from anything evil that might cause me pain." And God gave him what he prayed for.

Meeting for Teenage Girls

Astria, who some of you will know from The Liberty Tea Rooms, runs a meeting every Friday 5.30 - 7.00 at her home in Woodall Farm for teenage girls 13yrs – 17yrs
You can join in anytime.

If you are interested Pat Gosling can give you contact details.
Meetings will include looking into the Bible and lots of chat!

Joy says..... From the age of 6 John 14:6 was very important to me..... ‘I AM the Way, the Truth and The Life. No-one comes to the Father except through me.

Then when I first became an elder at AFC..... Psalm 68.....
‘Let God arise and let His enemies be scattered. Let those who hate Him flee before Him.’

Tess shares a favourite recipe.....

Quick and easy high-energy breakfast rolls that will keep you full til lunch.

- 4 eggs
- 400g oats (any type)
- 400g cottage cheese
- 2 teaspoons of baking powder
- 1 teaspoon of salt
- A small pinch of pepper.

Mix together then roll up aprox. 6 balls from the mix and press to make a roll shape.

Sprinkle some pepper, garlic powder or any herbs you fancy over the top.

Bake on 180 degrees for 30 min

I like to eat mine with a poached egg



From Brian.....

When Pam asked us to write about what inspires us, I guess it comes as no surprise that I will mention music. Probably like most people, the music that inspires me is what I heard when I was young. Although this does include serious music like the Planet Suite and Beethoven's 6th Symphony, it's really popular music that I like.



Lonnie Donegan

The first two artists that I really enjoyed listening to were Peggy Lee and Lonnie Donegan. Between them, they established my love of blues, jazz and folk music. The British blues bands of the early sixties were my next big thing; The Animals, Yardbirds and Spencer Davis Group. These were quickly followed by John Mayall's Bluesbreakers, Cream, Jimi Hendrix Experience and Fleetwood Mac (the original band with Peter Green and Jeremy Spencer).

By the end of the sixties, I listened more to folk, starting with Pentangle, and jazz, especially Miles Davis and John McLaughlin.

I still enjoy listening to all these bands and others like Traffic and Yes. However, there is one sixties band that I absolutely love listening to, the Jeff Beck Group. I think they were the best live band I ever saw and I've seen quite a few.



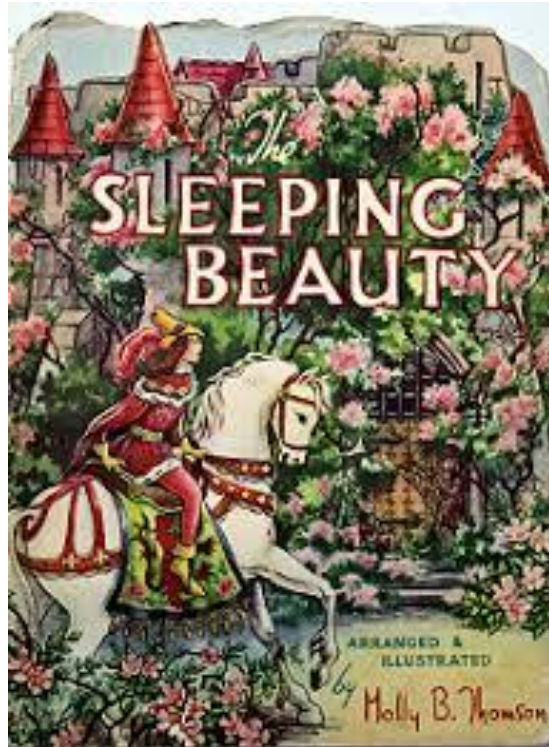
Jeff Beck

After Jeff Beck left the Yardbirds, he auditioned various musicians to form his own band.

Although starting on rhythm guitar, Ronnie Wood, who had played with the Yardbirds on a few occasions, switched to bass guitar. Rod Stewart, a fan of the Yardbirds, was on lead vocals. After trying various drummers, Aynsley Dunbar played the first time I saw them; they settled on Micky Waller who had been in the Steampacket with Rod Stewart. This was the line up I saw regularly.

Jeff Beck was an incredible guitarist, Ronnie Wood a great bass player, Micky Waller a solid drummer and Rod Stewart was never as good again. They made two albums. The first was brilliant and, although good, the second came as the band was already coming to its end with Rod and Ronnie replacing Steve Marriott in the Faces.

If you would like to hear this great band at their best, listen to the album 'Truth' on Spotify.



The book that opened doors.....

When I was very young..... about 3..... someone gave me this book for my birthday. It is one of the most beautiful books I have ever seen for a child. Each page is a complete picture with the writing incorporated and each page is a room in the castle where Sleeping Beauty lives. There are windows that show through to the next page and faces and objects can be seen through the windows and found again as you turn the page. The details on each page are so well drawn and the colours are so evocative.

Mum would read it to me over and over again because I pleaded with her. I would sit with her and look at the writing as she read then we would look at each picture for ages before she turned to the next page. I began to be able to recognise the words because she traced them with her finger as she read. Eventually using word -recognition I was able to read the whole book for myself. It was the start of my ability to read and I never looked back..... I was about 3 years and six months old and reading this book. The ability to read is an open door for anything we want to enter into. What a wonderful privilege it is to be able to read.

Sleeping Beauty

A new version

Once upon a time there was a baby. This baby was small and unaware of anything that might spoil or rob her life. The baby just went along every day eating, sleeping, crying for attention and laughing whenever she was given what she wanted.



The baby belonged to a King who loved his child so much and called the child Beauty. Beauty was happy to belong to the King and enjoyed all the protection given by him.

Unfortunately, the King had a wicked enemy who had every intention of robbing the King's child from her inheritance so the enemy set about with a plan to remove the child and thwart the King's plans for his kingdom. The enemy wanted to take over because power was the only pleasure left.



The enemy spent several years honing the plan and during this time Beauty grew up to become an attractive young person learning about life and enjoying everything she could, blissfully unaware that soon things could change. The King was always on the lookout for the enemy's approach and gave Beauty advice on how to be careful not to stray into places where the enemy could attack. But Beauty was inquisitive and began to ignore the King's instructions. One day Beauty strayed into an area of the castle never before seen because the King had said it was out of bounds.



Beauty pushed very hard on the door and it creaked open to reveal interesting objects that had actually been hidden there by the enemy for such a time as this. Completely forgetting the King's instructions Beauty started to touch and play with the objects in the forbidden room. They were poisoned and Beauty became as though in a trance or deep sleep. Nothing that the King had taught Beauty was able to give a rescue from the numbing effect of the enemy's trap and soon Beauty was completely cut off from the goodness and love of her father. The door on the room closed and Beauty was trapped.



Now the enemy was able to spread consternation among those who lived in the castle and they too became distracted from the order and routine the King had developed to make the castle run effectively. There was chaos and a choking briar that grew around the castle cutting it off from everyone on the outside. Although it produced lovely roses it was also

covered with sharp thorns that ripped and tore at anyone wanting to remove it. No-one was now able to benefit from the goodness the King had wanted to establish throughout his kingdom.



Years passed and the castle became almost invisible because of the briar. Then, one day a stranger appeared. He was a prince and had come with specific intention of finding Beauty and rescuing her from the evil curse that had gripped her for so long. The King of Kings, his Father, had sent him with a map and a sword and a strategy to save.

The sword was the sword of the power and spirit of the King of Kings and with it he cut down the briar that was covering the castle. The map showed the way to the right path back to goodness and away from the plans of the enemy of the castle and its people. The strategy was one of love and forgiveness.



The prince went to the room where Beauty was imprisoned and with the sword he smashed the door into a thousand pieces. He found Beauty in a deep trance. She did not even realise at first that he was there. He went up to her gently and kissed her lovingly. His kiss broke the curse and she opened her eyes and saw him for the first time. He was everything that was wonderful to her and she fell completely in love with him.

At the same time the curse was lifted from the whole castle and everyone in it was freed from the curse of the enemy. The love that the prince had brought was more powerful than the evil that the enemy had used and his power was broken. From that time and forever the love that became central to the castle was the driving force of the kingdom and everyone who came into contact with it was given the choice to stay and become part of the life they could find there. Beauty stayed with the prince and her life changed forever. Her father was so grateful that he, too, invited the prince to stay with him. So, he never lost his Beauty but gained a whole new way of life.



Some Odd thoughts from Penny:

New word I learnt: BEACHITUDE (n) when you start to feel grumpy and snarky because you miss the beach. (So that's the cure if I'm grumpy!!)

The saddest verse in the Bible: Rev 21:1

"Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth. "For the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea."

I love the sea and I cannot believe that my favourite place won't exist!!
But that means that Heaven must be even better than the sea, so I guess it will be okay

The quote that changed my life:

When the fact is faced that life is profoundly disappointing then the only way to make it is to learn to love. And only those who are no longer consumed with finding satisfaction now are able to love. Only when we commit our yearning for perfect joy to a Father we have learned to deeply trust are we free to live for others despite the reality of a perpetual ache.
Larry Crabb, Inside Out

Why did Jesus appear to the women first after the resurrection?

To make sure that the news would spread more quickly



I AM

Yvonne writes.....

Reading and reflecting on our new theme in Discovering Jesus in church. My thoughts went back many years ago when I did voluntary work for a charity investigating individual social service cases. It was in this case I had 10 years of information to read. What struck me were the names of the family members.

Lady I am, Lord, I am, and Jesus I am.

How do you feel about these names used and would you use these names?

You already know the curiosity and the judgements laid at their door by their names alone.

I travelled north and knocked on the door of this quaint cottage, I felt at peace but curious who would be opening the door. A stout man smartly dressed wearing a check shirt with a dicky bow and an arran cardigan. Standing beside him was 'Jesus I am,' a slight boy with a friendly smile. I felt at peace, it was an area I was unfamiliar with, but they were welcoming. 'Jesus I am' led me to the tiny bird he was looking after lying in a shoe box with a poorly leg. There was something magical about all of them, not a weirdo, odd, one of those wonderful words used when someone is different.

My time there changed my thinking, which read very differently from the records I had at my disposal.

Sometimes we let Jesus down as we lack the bravery of joyfully recognising his love because of people's reaction. Here in this stone cottage, I found a family who did not follow everyone else in the world, they had their own world to live a Christian life protected by their faith.

What does a Christian life look and feel like?

In the world today we are challenged in so many ways as Christians that brings emotional turmoil at times. We sometimes lose that trust in Jesus as our protector and guidance. In our space of anxiety, we miss his voice. He will lead us to green pastures and still waters and our soul will be restored.



My little boy and his family were at peace and joyful, there was so much love and care in this home but for the unbeliever or believer they could not see.

I pray for the love, compassion and their trust in our father is still there wherever they may be.

Mag Wordsearch

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ADVICE-BIBLE-BOOK-CHAPTER-HELP-IDEAS-
 INFLUENCE-INSPIRE-LEAFLET-LISTEN-LYRIC-
 MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER-NOVEL-PHILOSOPHY-PLAY-
 POEM-POETRY-READ-RECALL-RECITE-REFERENCE-
 REMEMBER-SAGA-SING-SONG-SUPPORT-TRUTH-
 VERSE-WRITE

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What's happening in October?

- 5thPraise Event at St George's
 - Sunday 6th I AM the Bread of Life
 - Sunday 13th ... I AM The Resurrection and The Life. *Communion service*
 - Sunday 20th..... Visiting speaker, Bob Dyson
 - Sunday 27th. I AM the Good Shepherd. *All Age.*
-
- Tuesday mornings, Senior Pals in Meet and Eat
 - Wednesdays and Thursdays 9.30-12.30 Meet and Eat
 - Thursday Mornings from 9.30 Little Fish
 - Fridays, 11.30 Meditation, 12.15-1pm Friday Prayers.