

CHURCH @ HOME

JOIN US FOR CHURCH LIVE ON FACEBOOK EVERY SUNDAY AT 10:30 AM!

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FOOD, FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD

Sunday 28th August @ 10.30am in St. Andrew's Church, Congresbury

Journeying with Acts

The Book of Acts

This will begin on Sunday 3rd July at 10.30am in Congresbury with an "Overview of the Journey before us" and then continue, Sunday by Sunday throughout the summer.

Join us online or physically in church. Catch up on our Facebook page or website at <https://www.facebook.com/newcreationchurches> or <http://www.newcreationchurches.co.uk>

Join us on Sunday 28th August at St. Andrew's, Congresbury for our next Explore Together service, looking at the story of Peter's dream. Explore Together is a great way to engage in faith through discussion and craft based groups in an informal and friendly atmosphere.

Day	Date	Church	Service and Time
Sunday	31 st July	Congresbury	Holy Communion – 10.30am
Sunday	31 st July	Congresbury	Explore @4 – 4pm
Tuesday	2 nd Aug	Banwell	Communion – 9am
Wednesday	3 rd Aug	Congresbury	Communion – 9am
Sunday	7 th Aug	Banwell	Morning Worship with Communion – 10.30am
Tuesday	9 th Aug	Banwell	Communion – 9am
Wednesday	10 th Aug	Congresbury	Communion – 9am
Sunday	14 th Aug	Congresbury	Morning Worship with Communion – 10.30am
Tuesday	16 th Aug	Banwell	Communion – 9am
Wednesday	17 th Aug	Congresbury	Communion – 9am
Sunday	21 st Aug	Banwell	Morning Worship with Communion – 10.30am
Tuesday	23 rd Aug	Banwell	Communion – 9am
Wednesday	24 th Aug	Congresbury	Communion – 9am
Thursday	25 th Aug	Banwell	Holiday Club 10am-3pm
Sunday	28 th Aug	Congresbury	Explore Together – 10.30am
Tuesday	30 th Aug	Banwell	Communion – 9am
Wednesday	31 st Aug	Congresbury	Communion – 9am
Saturday	2 nd Sept	Congresbury	Muddy Boot Church 10-11am
Saturday	2 nd Sept	Banwell	Story Church 4-5.30pm
Sunday	4 th Sept	Banwell	Morning Worship with Communion – 10.30am



NEW CREATION PEW NEWS

St Andrew's Churches,
Banwell and Congresbury

New Creation
Building Better Community

SUNDAY 31ST JULY, 2022 TRINITY 7

"Living faith – a garden full of wonder."

"⁸ Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord; no deeds can compare with yours. ⁹ All the nations you have made will come and worship before you; they will bring glory to your name. ¹⁰ For you are great and do marvellous deeds; for you alone are God." (Psalm 86:8-10)

On Wednesday of this last week we had an outdoor Communion Service in the Prayer Garden at Congresbury, in part to dedicate a bench for the garden, given in memory of a much-loved former member of the Wednesday communion community – Clarice Lovell.

The English weather was perfect, neither too warm nor too cold; white, fluffy clouds drifted gently across a beautiful blue sky. In the garden, the apple trees are bursting forth, producing an abundance of soon to be ripe apples. Indeed, the growing foliage tickled the ears, and even the noses of one or two of us as we sat round in a circle on benches and the stone seating.

Here we were in God's greatest 'Cathedral' – His creation. And on a near 'perfect' day.

Sharing in worship like this outdoors lends itself to awe and wonder. Whether as part of an organised group, or having a quiet time on our own, we not only can marvel at the height of the ceiling overhead or the breath-taking wonder of the view, there is a long tradition that our prayers and praises actually join in with the ongoing prayer and praise of all of creation itself.

I am reminded of passages such as:

"You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; and the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands. (from Isaiah 55:12)

And "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge. They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them. Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun. It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, like a champion rejoicing to run his course. It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth." (Psalm 19:1-6)



Reading words such as “nothing is deprived of the sun’s warmth” also reminds me of the news this week from our top meteorologists that the recent record-breaking heatwave was exacerbated by up to 4 degrees Celsius because of human use of fossil fuels, which was the key factor leading to not only our ‘over-heating’ as human beings but also, critically, to the overheating of the earth leading to making grassland and forests so susceptible to ‘wild fires’ to such devastating effect.

In order to challenge our ‘consumerist’ approach as human beings to creation, we urgently need to recapture both a biblical and an ancient people’s peoples’ understanding of the natural world around us and recover our awe and wonder of simply being part of something much bigger than ourselves. I would go as far as to say it is an ‘imperative’ – i.e. vital, both for creation’s sake, but also for ours, re-aligning us with a biblical harmony in which our prayer and praise joins in with the praise of all that lives.*

I never tire of reminding myself, as someone who has recently discovered the wonders of walking the hills, particularly of the Brecon Beacons, “that those hills are there whether I’m there or not. They point to God each day, before I went there, while I was there, and they will be there (God willing) long after I’m gone.” So grab yourself a coffee (or a tea). Take yourself outside. Give yourself five minutes. Close your eyes, take in the wonder of the silent song and prayer of all that is as the creation offers its prayer and praise to its Creator each and every day. And after listening, let us join in with offering our own prayer and praise too. You may even like to keep a record, or set yourself a challenge, of different times, places, and weathers where you have joined in with such times of prayer.

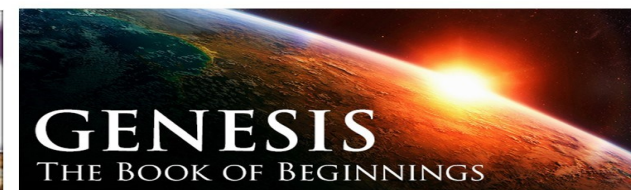
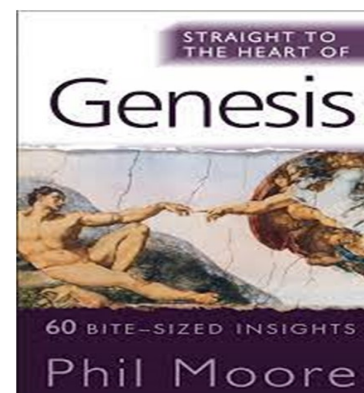
Instead of ‘getting in the way,’ let us ‘get in tune’ with the mystery and wonder of our Creation’s song.

Matt Thomson

* Postscript: One of the greatest of poems and prayers ever written on this very subject of Creations’ prayer was written by Francis of Assisi “The Canticle of the Creatures.” You can look it up in books, on the Internet or, if you are reading this digitally, by following the following link: [The Canticle of the Creatures | St Anthony Shrine](#)



Join us at 4pm online or in St. Andrew's, Congresbury for our all new Explore@4. Today we will be looking at how we know that God loves us and how we see that love. This is a family friendly service, perfect for those just starting out in their faith journey or for those looking at a different approach to faith.



**‘Next Chapter’ in our Daily Blog –
“Going straight to the heart of Genesis
– 60 bite-sized insights”
by Phil Moore**

Go back to the beginning

Thank you so much for all the donations so far

If you can help us by donating any of the following items we would be very grateful

Onions
Sweetcorn
Stock cubes
Tins of sausages
Potatoes
Tinned tomatoes
Worcestershire sauce

Fruit sauces
Tinned fruit
Chocolate chips
Jam
Dried fruit
Meringue nests
Oats
Golden syrup



**Either place in a box at the back of church or drop into Congars cafe
Thank you for all your support**

New Creation
Building Better Community



MOTHERS' UNION COFFEE MORNING

Tuesday 23rd August

St. Andrew's Church

Banwell

10 a.m. - 12 noon

Coffee and cake Raffle
Please come along and meet new friends
In aid of M.U. funds

New Creation
Building Better Community



RULE OF LIFE

**New Course looking
at the Letter to the
Hebrews:**

**Wednesdays at 7.30pm
beginning 7th September**

Email ianstocker17@gmail.com or see
www.newcreationchurches.org.uk for
more details

