

Wavertree Congregational Church

Messenger - July - August 2023

Nahum 1:7

The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble;
He knows those who take refuge in Him.

Prayers

Please remember the following in your prayers:

John & Carolyn Fry, Jackie & Jason Hookey, Darren, Alison & Ben, Peter & Val Humphreys and family, Martin Eccles, Eileen Lowe, Dilys Little, Anne Lord, Ann & Alan Ascott, Walter Ash, Stephen Murphy, John Burnell & Margaret, Pauline Campbell, Sue & Ged, Lindsay & Peter, Mei, John & family, Steve & Gill Smith, Jean Dawber and Jonathan Tanner & family (Annettes Friend)



Tea with a Twist:

Saturday 1st July: Yvonne & Poppy Campbell

Saturday 5th August: Ann & Alan Ascott

Sunday Services

July

2nd - Eve / Holy Communion

9th - Annette Maudsley

16th - Yvonne Campbell

23rd - Sandra O'Nions

30th - Wyn Davies

August

6th - Eve / Holy Communion

13th - Sue Warburton

20th - TBC

27th - TBC

Flower Rota

July

2nd & 9th - Sue Warburton

16th & 23rd - Ann Ascott

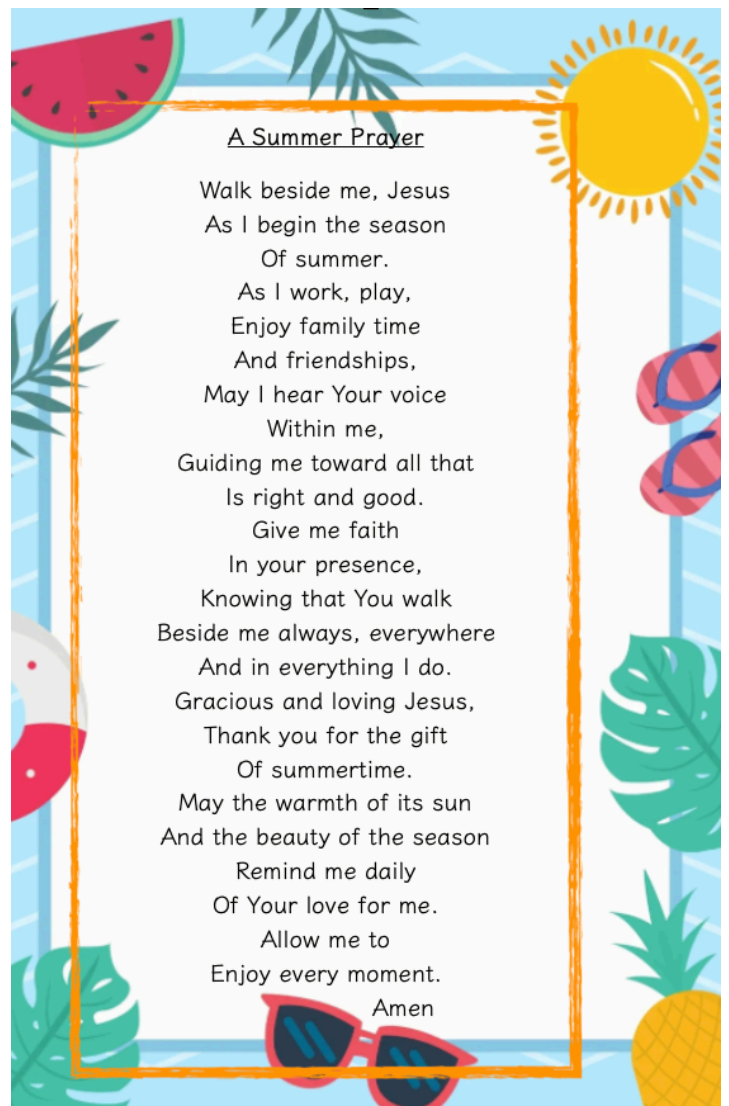
30th - Jackie Hookey

August

6th - Jackie Hookey

13th & 20th - Eve Maudsley

27th - Viv Collingwood



Dear Friends,

Our small gardens here, front and back, are blessed by red, pink and white hydrangea, including a climbing one! We have many other plants, small and larger, but these plants when they are getting into full bloom, right now, they remind me so much of my visits with my Mum to see my Grandad up in Longview, Huyton. My Dad was fond of them too, though there was little chance in our house in Langton Road. But I have made up that love of both of them here in Dublin.

I don't know about you but these nights, after hot days, can grumble with the sound of thunder. Rain pours off the roof in a deluge and then the sun comes out again. I know that Jesus, his family and his followers must have been well used to such sun at least. But we are now only just beginning to experience such sun. The earth is so dry. Remember the torment of Jesus in the desert. 'Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. After fasting for forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. The tempter came to him and said, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread. "Jesus answered, 'It is written: "Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every Word that comes from the mouth of God." (**Matthew 4:1-4**). As we well know, Jesus' struggle goes on. "Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the highest point of the temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down. For it is written: "He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone." Jesus answered him, 'It is also written: "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'All this I will give you,' he said, 'if you will bow down and worship me.' Jesus said to him, 'Away from me, Satan! For it is written: "Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only." Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him. (**Matthew 4:5-11**)

It struck me that the torment, after 40 days, in a temperature much more extreme than our gardens, most of us would find it very hard to live. Water is the only vital source that could make it possible. We do not know if Jesus had that. What matters is Jesus providing our life giving water. For Jesus is saying that wherever, whenever and with whom we may or may not know, we must never give up our faith in God. The Devil is immensely clever in any form of persuasion. So we must always respond, whether hot or cold the world may be, let's never forget Christ's struggle for us. Let's just rejoice in what we see and feel around us and quietly say, Thank You, Lord.

God bless,

Peter