



**September 2018 Newsletter**

**Sarah's message**

Autumn days...

Meteorologically (i.e. according to weather forecasters!), autumn starts on September 1<sup>st</sup>, and we start to think about the final harvest being brought in from the fields and orchards. It is surely this thought that inspired the favourite school hymn 'Autumn Days', which starts with natural things, but also moves to include manmade things for which to give thanks. (Jet planes meeting in the air to be refuelled surely has to win a prize as the most imaginative way to find a rhyme for 'jewelled'?)

I don't know if you've ever sung it, but the song is a good reminder of our need to be thankful. In order for the hymn to be sung in schools with pupils of all faiths and none, the thanks is left hanging, undirected, but we know that 'every good and perfect gift comes from God', so we can direct our thanks to Him. I wonder, as a challenge, whether you can post a 'thankful post' on social media every day through September, to remind you of your attitude of gratitude.

And yet, September doesn't always feel autumnal. Last year on September 1<sup>st</sup> I was at Moseley Old Hall in blazing sunshine. This is what I wrote:

Autumn is announced  
Yet no one has told the trees  
Holding firmly to their leaves  
Revelling in their greens...

Autumn is announced  
Yet no one has told the sun  
Shining on and on  
Warming my sky-turned face

We indeed have much to be thankful for.

Rev. Sarah Bingham

**Harvest Festival Family Event**

**Mend-It**

Mend-It will resume on Tuesday 4th September 9:30am after the summer break. We have a new service for the community; Clothing repair and Alterations service on Tuesday & Thursday mornings from 9:30am, along with the usual sewing, tea, coffee and a chat.

If you have never been to a Mend-it Session before, please come along all are welcome!

**Friday 28th September:**

**Church members meeting 7:30pm**

**Harvest Festival Family Event**

Harvest Weekend

Our harvest celebrations will feature a church social event on Saturday September 29 @ 6pm. Arrangements are in hand for a quiz or entertainment to be announced nearer the date. Food will be jacket potatoes with fillings of course.

Tickets will be going on sale soon and it will be a really fun night for all the family. We're hoping that everyone will come and bring their friends. It will also be an opportunity to invite new visitors to GLBC to get know them a bit better.

The Deacons.

**Green Lane questionnaire**

The purpose of the survey is to help each regular attendee (adults and children) to think about the life of the congregation, their engagement within it and to think about ways to improve it. It looks at our activities and personal involvement, and asks for suggestions about improving levels of engagement and providing more opportunities for serving. The questionnaire's will be handed out soon, and we require them back by the end of September please, thanks. Rev. Sarah Bingham.



Samaritan's Purse (Christmas Shoe box appeal) runs throughout the month of October. Shoe boxes will be available soon, see Robert Silvera.





