



PPT: the Parish Church of St Peter, St Paul
& St Thomas of Canterbury, Bovey Tracey
and St Mary's, Hennock



The Bulletin

December 2022 - February 2023



Christmas Spirit - 1939!

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Letter from the Vicar: *Stormy Weather*

Wind and rain are lashing the vicarage as I write: the winter is upon us, and the Met Office are forecasting a milder but wilder season, with storms likely.

That also seems to be true of current affairs, as the War in Ukraine continues, and soaring energy prices drive inflation to a 40 yr high, with shortages of some foodstuffs. Everyone is feeling the pinch, and some are really struggling. So please do what you can to support local initiatives such as the Community Fridge sited at Bovey Methodist (see p.4), the Community Food Hub (see p or the Food Shelf in Hennock outside Hazel Crest:



“Take what you need: leave what you can”. We continue to collect food for Homeless in Teignbridge, where the need is even greater For those who need to save on heating there are warm spaces being advertised in the centre of Bovey. Christmas for many this year will be much less extravagant, but please be mindful of those who have nothing, and continue to be generous to all in need.



We do not need to economise on joy and hope at this season. Jesus came down to us in the world with nothing, and taught us to trust him in the wildest storms., even if the boat seems to be on the point of sinking. When his disciples woke him, saying “Teacher, don’t you care if we drown?”, he rebuked the waves, saying “Peace! Be still!”, and asked them: “Why are you so afraid?

Have you still no faith?” (Mark 4.39-40) He has guided his people through many dark days, and will continue to do so until He returns in glory.

But if I may be permitted to mix my stormy metaphors, he also tells us to build our lives on the solid rock of his words:

“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock.” (Matthew 7.24).

We face a particularly severe storm within the Church of England this winter. The Lambeth Conference of the Bishops of the Anglican Communion this summer did not achieve any resolution of the issues that divide us. Some stayed away in protest: others abstained from taking communion with those whom they see

as being in serious error. The majority of the Anglican Communion remains firmly committed to the supreme authority of scripture and the traditional understanding of matters of sexuality, but the churches of the West, already in steep numerical decline, are under great cultural pressure to accommodate themselves to the spirit of the age. Now that the 'Living in Love & Faith' consultation has been completed, the College of Bishops of the Church of England must make a decision on the way forward. Please pray for them as they meet on 12 December to draw up their proposals, and for General Synod meeting in London 6-9 February 2023, who will respond to the proposals

This storm will burst upon us in the coming months, and it will test our loyalty to scripture, to the church and to one another. Not everyone wants to hear about this, but if you are able, please join me at the monthly prayer meeting, which will be held at 7.30pm on the first Wednesday of each month. We will pray for the work of the local church and our community, for our mission partners, and also include a regular update on the situation in the Church of England.

In the meantime, let us look after one another through this stormy season, watch out for those who are going cold or hungry, or losing hope. May we hold fast to the challenge of Jesus:

“Why are you so afraid?
Have you still no faith?”

Jesus came down to save us, and he will not let us go.

yours in Christ,

Graham

From the registers:

Congratulations to: Lauren Brady and Connor Sullivan married on 1st October and Greg Wilgar and Bryony Jones married on 6th November.

Our condolences to the families of:

Marion Coombes,
Christine Downing, aged 87
Beryl Beer, aged 88
Harvey Richards, aged 82
Esther Weeks, aged 97
Pat Savage-Jones, aged 95
Rosemary Barker
Megan Gadd, aged 96
Geoffrey Cole,
Ellen Small
Noel Lavis
Philip Hodder
John Butcher
whose funerals were held in Bovey and Hennock in recent months

Mission Focus.

Each month we have a different focus for our prayers and mission giving. Our focus in December is **Open Doors**, in January will be **Christian Institute** and in February will be **Peninsular Gospel Partnership**. If you wish to make a donation you can put cash in the collection plate on Sunday, or use the contactless payment device, or make an online donation through the Church Bank account: please name the mission focus in the reference box.

The Community Fridge

Community Fridge in Bovey Tracey.

We are setting up a Community Fridge, here in Bovey Tracey. We are following the example of over 280 communities across the UK including our neighbours Ashburton and Chudleigh where such Community Fridges have been established for a while.

Many of you may have noticed we now have the 'shed' by the Methodist Church, in Fore Street, ready to house the fridge. The Methodist Church has kindly sorted out the outside electrical supply and the fridge is in place and ready to go.

Community Fridges offer one way of helping to reduce the serious problem of food waste in our communities from both retailers and households. The UK produces around 9.5 million tonnes of food waste each year and household waste alone generates 25 million tonnes CO₂ each year. (This is based on the total household food waste of 6.6 million tonnes including edible inedible parts). This makes a huge contribution to the climate crisis; it is bad for the planet and makes poor use of our precious resources.

A Community Fridge provides a public space where local organisations and households can make perishable food that would have been wasted available to the local community. It can be accessed by anyone and everyone in the community who wants to share food. The example of Community Fridges across the country shows that they can really make a difference and are a positive asset to the community. We had a really successful meeting about the

fridge on the 1st of October and we have recruited a number of volunteers to help support the running of the fridge.

Volunteer roles include help with publicity, help collecting food from retailers on a rota basis and helping with regular checks of the fridge to ensure quality and hygiene. We are also in touch with local food retailers, big and small, to organise the collection of surplus food and we getting information out to residents and households with advice about what foods can and cannot be put in the fridge and how to use it.

This is a project for everyone in Bovey Tracey, with the emphasis on reducing food waste and sharing food in a positive way.

We still need more volunteers so if you can help in any way or just want further information please email us at Boveycommunityfridge@gmail.com . We also have a Facebook page [Bovey Community Fridge | Facebook](#)

FOOD FOR THE FRIDGE	
YES	NO
✓ Sealed packages of food	x Meat
✓	x Fish
✓ Fresh fruit and vegetables	x Cooked food
✓ Bread and pastries	x Bean sprouts
✓ Unopened pasteurised milk, cheese and yoghurts	x Cooked rice
✓ Unopened fruit juice	x Raw milk, cheese, dairy
✓ Fresh (lion marked and dated eggs)	x Baby food
	x Pates

Youth Alpha will be starting on Sunday 8th January 2023, 6pm - 7pm in the church rooms at PPT and will last for 12 weeks.

Youth Alpha is a series of video-based sessions exploring the Christian faith.

Hot dogs will be provided, whilst we watch a short video and have a time of discussion in a relaxed and safe environment.

No question is ever a silly question!

We look forward to welcoming anyone in school year 7 and above, so that we can explore the foundations of the Christian faith together.

You do not have to be a Christian/or be part of a church to come along.

Those over the age of 14 are more than welcome to stay for the youth group, which takes place from 7pm - 9pm.

Please give Angie a call (07863 854013) if your young person would like to come along, as a parent/carer you will need to complete a registration form.

Louder is a regular time of worship and ministry for young people. It is a joint endeavour by Bovey Baptist and PPT and is hosted at the Baptist Church on Saturdays. The next session is Sat 3 December.

youth alpha

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Alpha

PPT Bovey Tracey

LOUDER

The Name Youth Worship, Ministry & Community

Louder in Faith
Louder in Worship
Louder in Living it Out

Sat. 3rd Dec

6.45pm - 9.00pm
@ Bovey Tracey Baptist Church

Online Things

The Deeds

Who runs it

Bovey Baptist

PPT

Events & Notes



CHRISTIANITY|EXPLORED

WHAT'S THE BEST NEWS
YOU'VE EVER HEARD?

Christianity Explored is an excellent opportunity to explore the heart of Christian faith: who Jesus is, what he came to do, and what it means to follow him. There are 8 sessions, involving a video, looking at part of the bible and open discussion. The course will start on Friday 6 January at 7.30pm in the Church Room lounge. Contact Graham (01626 833813) for further details.

The **New Century Singers** invite you to join them for some Christmas music on Tuesday 6 December in the church at 7.30 pm- tickets are £6.

Ring for the King Campaign

Have you ever considered trying the age old art of bell ringing? Are you perhaps a lapsed ringer?

The Devon Association of Ringers and The Guild of Devonshire Ringers are supporting a national campaign by the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers (CCCBR) to recruit and train more bell ringers to "Ring for the King." Church bells will ring out across the land on May 6th 2023 in celebration of the Coronation of King Charles III, but more ringers are needed to help mark this historic occasion. If this is something that may be of interest to you, please contact our local Tower Captain, Chris Dell (chrdell@gmail.com), speak with one of the bellringers, or visit www.devonbells.co.uk, www.devonringers.org.uk or call 07391 217669

We also do handbell practice on Mondays in the church at 6.30. This is method ringing rather than tunes at the moment but we plan on doing Christmas Carols for this year.

Vivaldi Gloria
&
Christmas Songs

P.P.T. CHURCH, BOVEY TRACEY
6TH DECEMBER - 7.30PM - £6

The poster features a blue background with a glowing, spiral Christmas tree on the right side, decorated with white stars and lights. The text is written in elegant, cursive fonts with a glowing effect.

1st Steps Baby and Toddler Group

1st Steps started a new term in September and we have had a very busy time!

This term we have been exploring popular children's book and using these to link to an appropriate bible verse. We started with the book Dear Zoo and the theme "God Made Everything" with a verse from Genesis 1:24.

The children enjoyed posting animals in our Post Office and making paper chain snakes!

We have had lots of messy play in our Tuff tray including hunting for hidden toys in cooked spaghetti, playing with autumn leaves and pine cones and playing with diggers and "weetabix" hay bales!

Rosie and I are fortunate to have had Shirley Codner join our volunteer team and Shirley is brilliant at coming up with lots of messy play ideas which the children love!

The children have created some fabulous crafts as well including their own passports with their thumbprints on, edible Sparklers for November 5th and a beautiful Poppy Wreath for Remembrance Sunday.

1st Steps welcomes all children from 0-4 along with their parents/ grandparents and carers on Friday morning during term time from 9.45am-11.45am. The group is currently thriving with anything from 18-26 babies and children each week. We are blessed to see the children explore, play and have fun and we welcome the opportunity to share God's love with them each week.

At time of printing we are looking forward to our Christmas activities including our Nativity and hopefully a visit from Father Christmas at our Christmas party!

Camilla Matheson, Rosie Stephens and Shirley Codner.



What's on at PPT Bovey & St Mary's

see the weekly notice sheet for details of regular midweek services and events

November

27 Sun

		Advent Sunday: <i>The end is nigh?</i>
PPT	9.30am	Bible readings: Acts 4. 5-13, Luke 21.5-24
	11.00am	Sunday Praise(HC): Rev Graham Hamilton
	5.00pm	Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton.
	6.30pm	Fellowship@5.
St Mary's		14-18s at Church Room PPT.
	4.00pm	Bible Readings: 1 Tim 6. 3-19, Luke 20.41-21.4
		Light up a Life: Rev Graham Hamilton

December

4 Sun

		2nd Sunday of Advent <i>Be ready for His Coming</i>
PPT	11.00am	Bible readings: 1 Thess.3. 9-13, Luke 21.25-38
	4.00pm	Morning Worship: Mrs Carolyn Laycock.
	6.30pm	Christingle; Rev Graham Hamilton
St Mary's		14-18s at Church Room, PPT
	11.00am	bible readings: Acts 4. 5-13, Luke 21.5-24
		Morning Prayer: Rev Graham Hamilton
8 Thu	7.30pm	Light up a Life: Rev Graham Hamilton
10 Sat	1.00pm	<i>A Satellite for Christmas:</i> Bovey Baptist Church

11 Sun

		3rd Sunday of Advent: <i>Whole Counsel of God.</i>
PPT	9.30am	Bible readings: Acts 20.13-37, Luke 24.44-49
	11.00am	Sunday Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton
	5.00pm	Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton
	6.30pm	Fellowship@5
St Mary's		14-18s at Church Room PPT.
	4.00pm	Carol service: Rev Graham Hamilton

18 Sun

		4th Sunday of Advent: <i>Witness to The Light.</i>
PPT	9.30am	bible readings: Prov 8.22-31, John 1.1-9
	11.00am	Sunday Praise (HC): Canon Michael Sansom
	5.00pm	Holy Communion: Canon Michael Sansom
St Mary's		Carols at 5pm: Rev Graham Hamilton
	11.00am	Bible readings: Acts 20.13-37, Luke 24.44-49
		Holy Communion: Rev. Graham Hamilton

19 Mon

	7.30pm	Carols by Candlelight: Rev Graham Hamilton
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24 Sat

		Christmas Eve
	3.00pm	Farmyard Nativity at Warmhill Farm
	5.00pm	Carols by the Crib: Rev Graham Hamilton
	11.00pm	Christmas Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton

25 Sun		Christmas Day - <i>Word Made Flesh.</i>
PPT	9.30am	bible readings: Hebrews 1.1-4, John 1.1-18
St Mary's	11.00am	Christmas Praise: Re Graham Hamilton Bible Readings: Exodus 2.1-10, John 1.10-18 Christmas Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton.
Jan 2023		1st Sunday after Christmas. <i>Witness to the Lamb.</i>
1 Sun		bible readings: Mal 4.1-6, John.1.19-34
PPT	11.00am	Holy Communion: Canon Michael Sansom.
	5.00pm	Fellowship @ 5: tbc
St Mary's	11.00am	Bible Readings: Hebrews 2.10-end, Matthew 2.13-end Morning Worship: Mr Graham Whittle
4 Wed	7.30pm	Monthly prayer meeting: church room
6 Jan	7.30pm	Christianity Explored starts in the Church Room
8 Sun		Baptism of Christ: <i>Seeing and Believing.</i>
PPT	9.30am	bible readings: Rev 5.1-10, John 1.35-51
	11.00am	Sunday Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton
	5.00pm	Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton
	6.00pm	Prayer & Praise (Lord's Supper): Rev Graham Hamilton
St Mary's	11.00am	Youth Alpha starts in the Church Room bible readings: Mal 4.1-6, John.1.19-34 Holy Communion: Can. Michael Sansom
9 Mon	12.30pm	Friendship Lunch Club at Stover Golf Course
15 Sun		Epiphany 2-<i>Sign of the Wine</i>
	9.30am	Bible readings: Isa.62.1-5, John 2.1-12
	11.00am	Sunday Praise (HC): Rev Paul Reynolds.
	5.00pm	Morning Worship: Rev Paul Reynolds
	7.00pm	Fellowship@5: 14-18s in the Church Room
St Mary's	11.00am	Bible Readings: Rev 5.1-10, John 1.35-51 Morning Prayer: Rev Graham Hamilton.
22 Sun		Epiphany 3 <i>Sign for the Future</i>
PPT	9.30am	bible readings: Jer.7.1-15, John 2. 13-35
	11.00am	Sunday Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton
	5.00pm	Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton
St Mary's	11.00am	Fellowship @ Five bible readings: Isa.62.1-5, John 2.1-12 Holy Communion: Rev Paul Reynolds

29 Sun		Epiphany 4: <i>Second Birth</i> bible readings: Num.21.4-9, John 3.1-21
PPT	9.30am	Sunday Praise: Rev David Harris
	11.00am	Rev David Harris
	5.00pm	Prayer & Praise: Rev David Harris.
St Mary's		Bible Readings: Jer.7.1-15, John 2. 13-35
	11.00am	Morning Worship: Rev Paul Reynolds
Feb		
1 Wed	7.30pm	Monthly Prayer meeting in the Church Room
5 Sun		3rd Sunday before Lent: <i>Best Man's Speech.</i> Bible Readings: Phil 1.12-21, John 3.22-36
PPT	9.30am	Sunday Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton
	11.00am	Morning Prayer: Rev Graham Hamilton
	5.00pm	Fellowship @ Five
St Mary's		Bible Readings: Num.21.4-9, John 3.1-21
	11.00am	Holy Communion: Rev David Harris
12 Sun		2nd Sunday before Lent: <i>Living Water</i> bible readings: Ezek 47.1-2, John 4.1-26
PPT	9.30am	Sunday Praise: (All Age): Mrs Carolyn Laycock.
	11.00am	Morning Prayer: Mrs Carolyn Laycock
	5.00pm	Lord's Supper: Rev Graham Hamilton
St Mary's		Bible Readings: Phil 1.12-21, John 3.22-36
	11.00am	Morning Prayer: Rev Graham Hamilton
13 Mon	12.30pm	Friendship Lunch at Stover Golf Course
19 Sun		Sunday before Lent: <i>An unfair fight</i> bible readings: Exodus 1.1-2.10, Acts 7.9-22
PPT	9.30am	Sunday Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton
	11.00am	Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton
	5.00pm	Prayer & Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton
St Mary's		Bible Readings: Ezek 47.1-2, John 4.1-42
	11.00am	Morning Prayer: Mrs Carolyn Laycock
22 Wed	10.00am	Ash Wednesday Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton
23 Thu	7.30pm	Henock PCC meeting at Leigh Farm
26 Sun		First Sunday of Lent: <i>Wilderness calling</i> bible readings: Exodus 3.1-4.17, Mark 1.9-13
	9.30am	Sunday Praise: Can Michael Sansom
	11.00am	Holy Communion: Can. Michael Sansom
	5.00pm	Fellowship@5
St Mary's		Bible Readings: Exodus 1.1-2.10, Acts 7.9-22
	11.00am	Holy Communion: Rev David Harris

Foundations in Christian Ministry course - by Ros Pugsley.

The Foundations in Christian Ministry course run by the Diocese of Exeter takes place over 7 study days across the academic year, and I'm one of the current cohort of 25 participants. The course is aimed at people who might wish to examine their Christian faith more deeply and discover whether God is calling them to some kind of ministry, be that ministry requiring further study or something less formal.

At the time of writing we have met for 2 study days so it still feels fairly new. Over the summer we were given an optional reading list and I thoroughly enjoyed several of the books. In particular Vincent Donovan's Christianity Rediscovered - the author an American Catholic missionary to the pagan Masai tribe decided it was time for a radical rethink after realising that the mission had zero converts despite being established for over a century. So he travelled to spend time with the Masai and explained his faith in terms they could relate to, divesting it of Western/Middle Eastern cultural traditions and expectations and paring the message of the Gospel back to its bare bones. The surprising reaction was "why did you not tell us this before?" What struck me most was the simplicity of the message he was conveying - that God will meet anyone anywhere and that His love embraces everyone everywhere. The teaching so far has included sessions on different forms of Spirituality, and how the Bible was written. Both topics are fascinating and probably merit a much more in-depth study. The same goes for Theology which was defined not as

the slightly dusty idea of scholars debating the finer points of doctrine but as one's own personal beliefs and how these affect everyday living. Every study day we are given Spiritual Pathways exercises to try before the next meeting. Examples include finding God in nature, and using the senses to explore God. This feels like a real luxury - to be encouraged to spend time focusing on God and discovering the most imaginative means of communing with Him. It is grand to be given permission to indulge in some wider soul searching. Most other participants are (like me) not yet certain where the course will lead them, but the general feeling from both tutors and participants is that we have set sail on a voyage of discovery with all appropriate supplies and instruments on board! Later in the year we will be looking in particular at vocation, and learning more about lay ministries such as chaplaincy, pastoral support in a community setting and reader.

My overwhelming impression of the course so far is one of openness and generosity of spirit; it's inclusive and willing to see the best in everybody regardless of differences in Christian upbringing or practice. The tutors are inspiring, experienced and knowledgeable - with many years of parish ministry between them. If you are interested in finding out more please go to <https://swmtc.org.uk/study/foundations-in-christian-ministry/>

Who's who at PPT Bovey & St Mary's Hennock:

Vicar:

Rev. Graham Hamilton, 833813
St Peter's Vicarage, Coombe Cross, TQ13 9EP.
email: vicar@pptbovey.church.

Church Administrator:

Camilla Matheson 834835
email office@ pptbovey.church

Family Worker:

Rosie Stephens 07876 662138
email: familyworker@pptbovey.church

Youth Worker:

Angie Blanche 07863 854013
email: youth@pptbovey.church

Churchwardens (PPT)

Jill Hosford 832966
Mike Limb 832705
Email: wardens@pptbovey.church
(Hennock)

Ellena Jamie 854752
Miles Pomfrett 331062

Readers:

Carolyn Laycock 832335

Elected P.C.C.Members (PPT):

Barry Newport 07753 309797
Jack Knightly
Sharon Alexander 01626 854635
Tim Stephens 01626 834115
Shirley Codner 01626 824644
Peter Chesterman 07487 690791
Sue Nickels 01626 830308

Deanery Synod Reps:

Roy White 832771
Mathew Percy 07913 706627
David Barlow 01626 834910

Diocesan Synod Rep:

Dawn Hamilton 833813

P.C.C. Hon. Treasurer:

e: treasurer@pptbovey.church

Gift Aid Hon. Secretary:

Kate Martin 01647 277458

Safeguarding Officer:

Tim Stephens 01626 834115

Safeguarding Administrator:

?

Captain of the Ringers

Chris Dell 834994

Choir Co-ordinator:

Margaret Steele 832137

Pastoral Care Co-ordinator:

Jill Hosford 832966

First Steps Toddler Group:

Camilla Matheson 01364 661195

PCC & Church Room Secretary:

Jane Midgley, 832751
jane.midgley@gmail.com

Flower Rota:

Sarah Gilbert 833934

PPT Bovey is a registered Charity: 1128849.

The PPT Bank account is

'P C C Bovey Tracey',
acct no. 01219910, sort code 30-96-06.

The Hennock bank account is:

FOR PCC OF HENNOCK
acct no: 01220021 sort code 30-96-06

Please note that the Church office is no longer staffed, but ansaphones, emails and post will be checked regularly during the week. Contact the church wardens for details.

The Church Website contains details of all events, audio sermon files and documents for download: go to www.pptbovey.church

"PPT Bovey is committed to the safeguarding of children, young people and adults.. If you are concerned that a child or adult has been harmed or may be at risk of harm please contact the Parish Safeguarding officer. If you have immediate concerns about the safety of someone, please contact the police or local authority Children or Adults Services."



Scan. Pay. Go.



[tickets-471087464287?
fbclid=IwAR1vKC4PnXz0C1oKEezCOcfn7FEvW
AaU_Dmx1xqXoA8a1FSYwCAiVOuSGFs](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/family-pan-tivity-the-satellite-before-christmas-tickets-471087464287?fbclid=IwAR1vKC4PnXz0C1oKEezCOcfn7FEvWAaU_Dmx1xqXoA8a1FSYwCAiVOuSGFs)

COVENANT EYES



Is it a pantomime? Is it a Nativity? It's a
PANTIVITY!

4Front theatre have combined the two and are coming to Bovey Tracey to bring you a performance like no other!

Did you know, that there are currently 3000 dead satellites orbiting the Earth, and plenty more space junk clogging up Earth's orbit. With all that mess up there, someone should really do something to sort it out. Introducing the UK's premier space programme – the Orbital Bin-Men!

Join Hank and Arty for laughter, songs, fun and festive silliness as they prepare for an out-of-this-world Christmas party, but will the discovery of a strange glowing space rock ruin all their Christmas plans?

Where: Bovey Tracey Baptist Church,
Hind Street, Bovey Tracey, TQ13 7HT

When: Saturday 10th December 2022,
1.00pm

Who's it for: Children aged 3+ and their families.

Cost: Free - booking required (donations welcome on the door!)

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/family-pan-tivity-the-satellite-before-christmas->

Being more intentional may be one of your goals for the upcoming year. Purposefully using your time wisely, appreciating what you have, challenging yourself to be better, and being present for your most important relationships are great targets to shoot for.

Porn will distract and destroy all of those goals if it's not addressed properly. That's where we come in. For 22 years, we've been helping people just like you quit using porn for good or never start. One of the best ways to start is with STRIVE.. It's a free, 21-day porn detox that uses the best tips and advice we've ever compiled to get you on your porn-free journey.

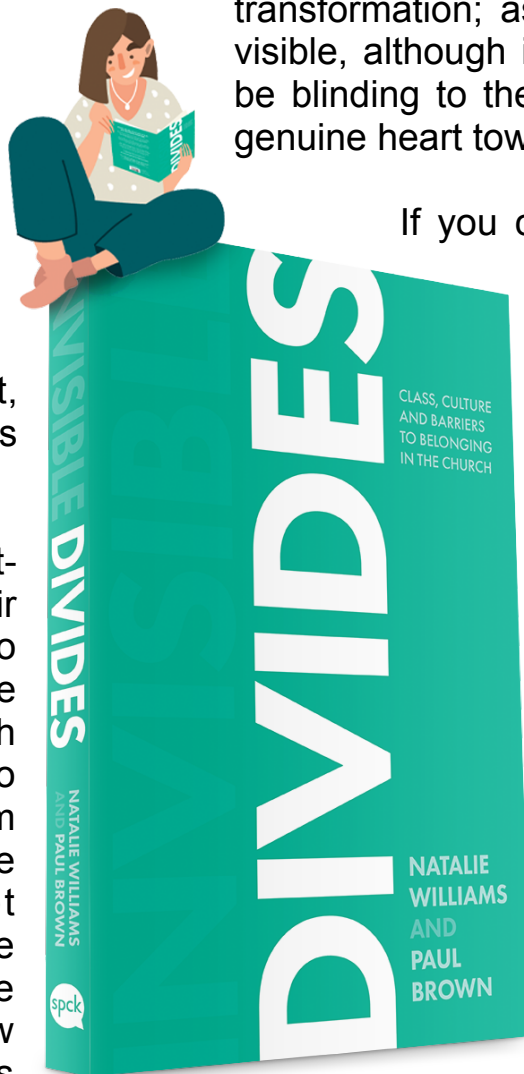
<https://www.strive21.com/strive-homepage>

Invisible Divides By Natalie Williams and Paul Brown, Published by SPCK

Written in a style everyone can appreciate, with very little highbrow/technical vocabulary to battle with; Invisible Divides is a down-to-earth, matter-of-fact book that is filled with personal testimonies of lives impacted by the Gospel but, hampered by the Church's Invisible Divides.

The authors employ these first-hand accounts, as well as their own experiences, to give meat to the bones of their thesis; that the church is sadly filled with divisions and divides that go unidentified because they stem from its middle-class nature particularly (although not exclusively) within the Evangelical tradition. These accounts demonstrate how damaging these stealth barriers are. Indeed, Invisible Divides points to research that shows that they are repelling new believers from wanting to go to, or of being a part of a Church. Furthermore, these walls of "prejudice" and "hostility" are preventing non-Christians from hearing the Gospel.

However, the revelation of these invisible divides could lead the way to deeper understanding, empathy, and personal/corporate growth of the church; whilst at the same time, bringing a long-overdue revival to the United Kingdom. For some readers, there is an inevitable sharpness within the argument that will prick



consciences and cut away at the rotten and entrenched thinking. Yet, Invisible Divides may well be a bridge for transformation; as the invisible becomes visible, although its light may temporarily be blinding to them it will also move the genuine heart towards change.

If you chose to read this book be prepared for its revelation threatens our comfort, challenges our perceptions, questions our prejudices and brings us face to face with our limited and inadequate understanding of being the Church; no small achievement for such a short paperback (167 pages)!

Finally, Dr. Amy Orr-Ewing (author, speaker and theologian) says that this book is 'a "must buy" for anyone who cares about the church and its mission today.' I concur that, if you desire to be a functioning member of the Body of Christ, and are open to being transformed by Our Heavenly Father so that His Kingdom is established, then this book is indeed "a must..."!

If you are interested in reading the Invisible Divides check out this site, it has videos on each chapter and discussion questions for further study or home groups: <https://thebigchurchread.co.uk/invisible-divides/>

Mathew Percy



From 6th Dec. Bovey Food Hub is moving!

FILL A BAG FOR £5

at our
Affordable Food Club
Bovey Methodist Church
Tuesdays 11.30 to 12.30



The Bovey Affordable Food Hub is moving!

On 6th December the **Food Hub** will open at the Methodist Church Hall in Bovey at the new time of 11.30am – 12.30pm. Members are invited to come and see the new location and pick up a bag of fresh fruit and veg, bread and other fridge and cupboard items for still just £5 per bag.

New members are very welcome, particularly if you are struggling to pay bills or having to choose between whether to 'heat or eat.' Come and see what we have to offer and sign up to receive a membership card and free tote bag.

And it's not just about taking food away! We serve free tea, coffee and a bowl of soup so come and chat for a while over some lunch. The main Hall will be open as a **Warm Space** from 11.00am -1.00pm on a Tuesday so plenty of time to have a cuppa, pick up your bag of food and stay warm. Access will be through the entrance on Le Mollay Littrey Way.

The **Citizens Advice Bureau** will be running their remote sessions on Tuesdays from 10am-12pm also at the Methodist Church – just turn up and someone will assist you with logging on to speak to an advisor.

HOPE IS BORN

CELEBRATE
THIS CHRISTMAS



cpo.org.uk 

Christmas services at PPT & Hennock 2022

11 Sun	4.00pm	3rd Sunday of Advent: Carol service at St Mary's Hennock
16 Fri	6.00pm	Carol singing at the Palk Arms, Hennock
17 Sat	4.00pm	Carol singing in Teign Village
18 Sun	5.00pm	4th Sunday of Advent: Informal Carols at PPT Bovey
19 Mon	7.30pm	Carols by Candlelight at PPT
24 Sat	3.00pm 5.00pm 11.00pm	Christmas Eve Farmyard Nativity at Warmhill Farm, Hennock Carols by the Crib at PPT Christmas Communion at PPT
25 Sun	9.30am 11.00am	Christmas Day Christmas Praise: family service at PPT Christmas Communion at St Mary's Hennock

The Spring Bulletin will be published on Friday 24 February 2023