

# The Cross & Crown



PRINCE GEORGE WINYAH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

301 Screven Street ♦ Georgetown, South Carolina 29440 ♦ 843-546-4358 or 546-4375

## *From the Deacon*

MAY 2008

Sailors today have incredibly sophisticated navigation, GPS tracking devices and all manner of up-to-date equipment to allow them to track storms and so forth, regardless of whether you have your own boat or captain a Container Ship.

Yet, if you are a good sailor – or at least if you were well taught, you would have learned to navigate the same way sailors have learned for centuries – the north star.

The north star is a fixed point in the sky, unchanging and unmoving, which allows sailors to pin point north. The north star has helped many a stranded or lost sailor to navigate their way home.

Christians have a north star. His name is Jesus. Revelation 22 calls him the Morning Star. He is unmoving, unchanging and he allows us to find our direction. When we as individuals, or as a community or as a church, lose sight of Jesus, we will soon be lost, wandering aimlessly and direction-less.

Our focus must be fixed upon Jesus, just as intently as a sailor who is lost watches for the north star. For when we do this we start to see what really matters; we start to build a God perspective on our lives and our society.

That is what John the Baptist did. Think about John the Baptist for a minute. He had a hugely successful ministry – he had authority and power and influence, yet because his focus had ALWAYS been on seeking out the Messiah, Jesus, he willingly stepped back. His life was so focused upon Jesus, he did not have time to worry about protecting his ministry. That's why when his disciples told him that Jesus was stealing his thunder he responded with "He must become greater and I must become less." How focused can you get!!

You see, our plans, our churches, our events, our organizations, our jobs, our ministries, our visions are nothing compared to the reality of knowing Jesus. All these things are all expendable in the sight of God's perspective – if they are not, then we have lost sight of the morning star, Jesus.

Our desire to be successful, to achieve or to out do one another, to build better projects than others or to create large mega churches pale into insignificance in the shadow of God's perspective.

So, how does this help us here at Prince George? Well, maybe we should begin by asking the question, Do you and I know God's perspective? Are we fixing our eyes on Jesus, our north star, even to the detriment of our own reputations? Are we doing this each Sunday when we meet together to worship, and each day during the week as we live out our Christian faith? For if and when we begin to do this, we too will be able to echo with John the Baptist, He must become greater and I must become less, and that will transform our community beyond recognition.

Yours in Christ,

## Birthdays

May 1 Clayton Avart	May 16 Rory Lee
May 1 Chuck Gresham	May 16 Ellison Oxner
May 3 Noah Downing	May 21 Lee Ann Tiller
May 4 Janice Benett	May 22 Jim Clark
May 5 Jan Lane	May 22 Roger Mower
May 6 Ulf Boshamer	May 23 Noel Ahearn
May 6 Betsy Brabson	May 23 Elaine Benson
May 8 Elizabeth Moore	May 23 John Benson
May 8 Doris Pioth	May 23 Jack Grimes
May 9 Andy Morgan	May 25 Angela Geer
May 9 Deanna Simons	May 27 Tess Boshamer
May 12 Duane DeMello	May 29 Virgil Dugan
May 12 Kay Mower	May 30 Mary Ann Benson
May 13 Cooper Lammonds	May 30 Martha Lammonds
May 14 Carolyn Bowen	May 31 Kitty Morgan

## Deaths

Bob Lumpkin  
Sarah Cherry  
Jack Holmes



## 61st Annual Plantation Tours

We had another successful year! Thanks to the generosity of the property owners and the hard work of all involved, we raised a profit of \$50,800. I would like to personally thank each and every one of you who gave so generously of your time, energy, and talent to make our tours a success. My sincere thanks goes out to all the committee members, hosts, hostesses, map readers, lunch makers, artists, tea hostesses, sign installers, parking directors, food table helpers, bakers, ticket sellers, alter guild, cook book sellers, and many others who worked so hard for this project.

Chairing the 61st Plantation tour was a special opportunity for me to get to know so many of you better and to make new acquaintances. The tours are more than beautiful homes and money raised. They are about Christian fellowship and hospitality. It is wonderful to see our congregation working together so well to provide a pleasurable time for our visitors, and in doing so, enriching ourselves in a measure that far outweighs the dollars raised.

**Mark your calendars for next year. Our 62nd Annual Plantation Tour will be held on April 3-4, 2009**

Sincerely,  
Marica Green, 2008 Tour Chairman

## Save the Dates!

# "God the Builder"



VBS is scheduled for June 23-27.

**T**his year we have developed our own curriculum and are very excited about it!

In reviewing the past years VBS the committee agreed that we needed to limit the number of participants in order to have a more relaxed and fun-filled experience for all involved. We will be welcoming the first 60 children who sign up. ***Please sign up your children ASAP in order to hold their spot, this is one they will not want to miss!***

**We need volunteers - Setting-up as well as with our different activities. There will be a meeting for the "staff" to get together on June 3 at 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall, to find places for all who are willing to help, please plan to attend.**

Please call Tracy at 545-5406 or email her at Tracy@pgp.com if you can help.

## Cursillo! Cursillo! Cursillo!

In the dark about *Cursillo*? Wondered what it's all about? *Cursillo* is a great weekend held at Camp St. Christopher four times a year. Those who have been (about 30 of us here at Prince George) will tell you it was one of the most important weekends in their Christian life. The weekend is great fun, good food and fellowship, and most of all, a time of experiencing God's love for you in a powerful way. Wherever you are in your Christian walk, *Cursillo* is an opportunity not to be missed. To go, you must be a member of Prince George and have a sponsor (anyone who has been before). *Cursillo* is popular in this Diocese, thus you need to get your name on the list to go, and then wait for an opening. For more information, and names of people who have attended, contact Paul Fuener at the church, 546-4358 or Sandy Gresham, 546-4985.

**ADULT EDUCATION**

*Becoming All You Were Meant To Be*

**May 4, 11 & 18**

*Led by Matt Walter and Andy Morgan.*

For many of us, we don't always see much relevance between church, God and the rest of our lives. God has his place. We choose our professions, arrange our schedules, enjoy our friendships. But all too often we fail to realize that God really cares about the things that matter to us, he wants to be involved in all of our decisions, and he has a destiny for us. The truth is, every part of our life belongs to him and he longs for you to become all you were meant to be by fulfilling the purposes he created you for. If your desire is to become more like Jesus, to grow more confident in god's guidance, more sure of his presence in life's difficulties, and more certain of the destiny he has created you for...then Join us **Sunday's at 10:10 a.m. in the PARISH HALL.**

*ECW Spring Bible Studies*

**Tuesday Nights - April 8 - May 20**

6:30 - 8 p.m. in the Parish Hall

**Wednesday Mornings - April 9 - May 21**

10 - 11:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall (childcare available)

**He Speaks to Me:** Preparing to Hear the Voice of God By: Priscilla Shirer



“When we approach God humbly and bow down before Him, we put ourselves in a position to hear from Him.”

Do you want to develop a more intimate prayer life? Even more, do you want to hear from God in practical ways?

Let Priscilla Shirer prepare you by giving you a deeper understanding of the Holy Spirit. Based on the life of Samuel, who first heard God's voice while still a small boy, and packed with practical examples from Priscilla's own life. He Speaks to Me speaks directly to the need to develop a richer prayer life and deeper, more intimate relationship with God, and to learn how to comfortably share their experience of God with others. Very well timed, given the trends.

**Contact Beth Roberts (Tuesday study) Laura Meyer or Lee Ann Tiller to sign up, books are \$15.**

**Upcoming Events – Important Dates**

<b>St Anne's Guild</b>	<b>May 6</b>	<b>11 a.m. Martha Allison's Home</b>
<b>Vestry</b>	<b>May 13</b>	<b>5 p.m. Parish Hall Library</b>
<b>Last Day Of Sunday School</b>	<b>May 18</b>	
<b>Parish Picnic</b>	<b>May 25</b>	<b>12:15 p.m. Rectory Grounds</b>
<b>Church Offices Closed</b>	<b>May 29</b>	<b>Memorial Day Holiday</b>
<b>ECW Meeting</b>	<b>June 10</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>EYC Mystery Trip</b>	<b>June 16-19</b>	<b>It's a mystery!!</b>
<b>New Wine USA Conference</b>	<b>June 19-22</b>	<b>St Andrews Mount Pleasant</b>
<b>Vacation Bible School</b>	<b>June 23-27</b>	<b>Church</b>
<b>Kanuga Renewal Conference</b>	<b>June 29-July 4</b>	<b>Kanuga Retreat Center, NC</b>

## DEVOTIONAL

*Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.  
Matthew 5:5*

Christians are sometimes portrayed as being weak, gullible, wimpish and self-effacing. The German philosopher Nietzsche claimed that Jesus also was weak. He claimed that Christians and their Christ lacked the will to power.

Power is precisely what the issue is all about! But the question is: What form of power does God want us to exercise? Is it a power that overwhelms and controls the other, or power that sets limitations on ourselves and seeks to serve and free the other? Clearly it is the latter. The significant exercise of power over our own selves is called meekness.

*Moses was called the meekest man in all the earth (Numbers 12:3).* He was not weak. In fact, he was a great leader in Israel's history. Yet Moses' power was never for self-aggrandizement. His power lay in his concern for the welfare of God's people and in his persistence to seek God's direction for the nation. His power lay in his ability to hear from God and execute his plans.

*Jesus later called himself "meek and lowly in heart" (Matthew 11:29).* He was hardly a weak personality. He demonstrated an ability to shape his own destiny and that of his followers in spite of great opposition and eventual death. Jesus was never intimidated, but with singleness of heart, he lived out his Father's will and purpose.

We are called to express power through meekness. In the original Greek, meekness means controlled strength. It is used to describe a horse that has been broken in to the use of bit and bridle, and thus prepared for useful service. The meek are those who have learned the virtue of self-control. They have embraced the call to live under God's discipline and in the way of his wisdom.

The meek are not weak. They have enthusiasm for life and its challenges. They have a sense of adventure, but they draw on God for inspiration, direction and empowerment. They have power over themselves so they can serve others better.

*Prayer: Lord help me to be tough on myself so that I can be gentle with others. AMEN.*

(Taken from Life In Full Stride By Charles Ringma)

## Book Review

**Confessions Of A Reformation Rev.**  
Rev. By Mark Driscoll

Mark Driscoll has a very controversial reputation. He is known as someone who speaks his mind, does not watch out for his p's and q's and is adept at saying something which is totally offensive.

Which is why I was interested to read his book, "*Confessions Of A Reformation Rev.*"

The book is effectively the story of how Mark planted his church (Mars Hill) in Washington State. It is now a mega church with ten thousand in attendance. But it did not begin that way. This is an honest (sometimes brutally so) account of that journey - one which, unlike some other books which seem to suggest that planting and growing a large church is as easy as putting milk on your cereal in the morning, refreshingly shows the difficulties and the stresses which he and his family experienced as he tried to follow God's calling. He does not try and make it sound easy. He admits his mistakes and rarely offers excuses for them.

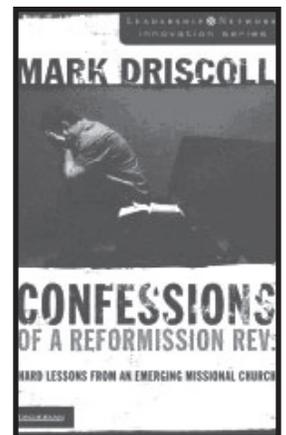
Sometimes I baulked at his responses or attitudes. One instance is when he recounts answering the phone at 3 a.m. to a member of his church who was struggling with a sin. Mark's response was "I don't have time to be your accountability partner, so you need to be a man and nut up and take care of this yourself." Maybe not as pastorally sensitive as he should be. Also, his chapter headings are interesting, Chapter 2 is Jesus, If anyone Else Calls My House, I May Be Seeing You Real Soon while Chapter 4 is titled, Jesus, Could You Please Rapture The Charismatic Lady Who Brings Her Tambourine To Church.

But Mark Driscoll knows this about himself and does not hide his failings. Many times he has repented publicly for his mistakes, and sought to improve and grow through his mistakes.

One of the things you have to admire about this account is that this church really did begin with 7 people, in a basement, and grew, and grew and grew. Also, unlike many young mega churches today, Driscoll is a conservative evangelical who values and takes seriously the command to teach the scriptures and is Passionate about Jesus.

Despite cringing a few times, I enjoyed reading this book and I learned a lot from it.

*Reviewed By Andy Morgan*



# Prince George Parish Family Weekend

November 7-9 2008 at Camp St. Christopher

This year we will be having our Parish Weekend Away to Camp St Christopher.

This promises to be a WONDERFUL time away together, of fellowship, teaching and relaxation.

This year we have a very special guest. Dr Rev Paul Blackham will be joining us from England. Paul got his Doctorate at 21 years of age, ordained into the Church of England and has for the past 11 years been the Minister for Theology at All Souls Langham Place in central London.



Paul was born into an evangelical Christian home. "My Dad is a Methodist local preacher, and I followed in his footsteps, beginning to train as a local preacher when I was fourteen. As I grew up, I saw many people become Christians in our home, and this gave me a deep confidence in the

power of the gospel".

He studied theology at Kings College London. "I went with a conviction that the Word of God could not be out-argued or undermined so long as we begin and end with Christ Jesus."

He met his wife, Liz, at university and they married in 1994 when Paul was completing his PhD on the doctrine of the Holy Spirit in the work of Thomas Goodwin, a Puritan Congregationalist. They have two sons, Jonathan and Paul and a daughter, Anna.

He is one of the brightest young theologians in England and someone whom I would pay to hear speak.

This really will be an incredible treat for us all!!

For more information please call Andy, 546-4358 or email [andy@pgwinyah.org](mailto:andy@pgwinyah.org). To book your place please send a deposit of \$50 to Andy at the church office.

## *Do YOU Need Healing?*

The fact is, ***every one*** of us needs healing – physical, spiritual, emotional, or otherwise. And so each Thursday at 10 a.m. we conduct in the church a Communion service with prayer for healing. The service is just like a Sunday morning Rite II service, except in place of the *Prayers of the People*, we use a *Litany of Healing* from the Book of Occasional Services, and then those who wish to receive prayer for healing come forward to the rail, where the priest says a brief prayer for them as they may request. We pray for physical ailments, but also for guidance, the mending of relationships, alleviating emotional distress, and any other problem or concern. The service lasts less than 40 minutes. Please consider making this service a regular part of your week. God has blessed us with His presence, and with miracles of healing at our rail. It is a privilege to avail ourselves of this gift.

### *The cost for the weekend will be as follows:*

If you want to stay in a lodge room the cost for double occupancy, for the whole weekend (just for the room) is \$160.00. So, a family of 4 will pay \$160 for the room and a married couple will pay \$160 for a room. If two or four men would like to stay in the lodge room it will be \$160.

On top of that price, the cost for the meals is \$66.00 per person. So a married couple will pay in total \$292 for the weekend (\$160 for the room and \$66 each for the meals).

A family of four with two children under 12 will pay \$342 (\$160 for the room, \$132 for the two adults food and 2 x \$25 for each child under 12 (for food).)

A family of four with two children over 12 will pay \$424 (that's \$160 for the room and 4 x \$66.00 for food)

To stay on a beach front cabin will cost \$120.00 per person, including ALL meals. For children under 12 the cost is \$50.00 including ALL MEALS.

*Habitat for Humanity* Georgetown County is having a new fund-raiser, "Featherin' our Nests," and you are invited to participate. Artists, professional and amateur, are creating birdhouses to be auctioned at a reception on Sunday, June 8. Members and friends of Prince George Episcopal Church are invited to build and/or decorate a birdhouse for the auction. (Pre-made birdhouses are available.) Members of other congregations are also making replicas of their churches, we hope Prince George Episcopal will too! Proceeds will go towards our "Builders' Blitz 2008" homes. Please help us build homes for God's people in need. For additional information, please contact Gordon and Jeri Johnson, Co-Chairpersons of the event at 235-8683. Hope to see you all on June 8.

## NOTES FROM THE CHOIR LOFT....

**BY JON BLAMIRE – MUSIC DIRECTOR**

“We’d like you to write a column for Cross and Crown, something about worship – you could call it ‘Notes from the choir loft’” they said. So, always enjoying a challenge, and taking my cue from Barnabus, here goes!

I have some favorite Bible passages about worship which I find really encouraging, and that’s what I would like to share with you first. Many of you will have already heard some of this, before, but I make no apology for repeating myself.

I was very struck by what Andy Morgan preached when I first visited Prince George a year ago with Wellspring. He said ‘God doesn’t want worship . . . He wants worshipers’. He based it from Jesus’ encounter with a Samaritan woman, described in *John 4*. When God has worshipers, then flowing from that will be worship, as demonstrated in *Revelation 7*. John recounts seeing people from every nation, tribe and tongue worshipping Jesus.

When I am watching a film or reading a book I really enjoy the suspense of not knowing what will happen next, and I hate it if someone spoils it for me. But when it comes to life and faith, I find huge encouragement: knowing how things will end.

Let’s take it back a step though and ask who are these worshipers? We know where they are from, but what qualified them? John tells us they are the ones who have come through tribulation and washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb. Not a nice image in many ways, but symbolic of those people who have allowed God to wash away their sin as they trusted in Jesus and have been found faithful to Him. As old fashioned or ‘baptist’ as it might sound, that is the requirement to join the company of heaven is being ‘washed in the blood of the Lamb’ - a tested faith in Christ.

Faithful followers of Jesus have two primary responsibilities in life: worshipping God, and making disciples of those around them. The second task is temporary – it’s only for this life. Worship, however, is both for now and eternity. So, is one more important than the other. No! In fact, they go hand in hand. Paul tells us that everything about our life is to be lived as worship to God, not just 90 minutes on a Sunday. As we live our whole lives for God in worship we are changed: we live with a purpose, we gain a heavenly perspective on our lives, we become more like Jesus, and we want to tell others.

To close, the really big question as you read this is, are you a worshiper? Whatever your answer, you need to understand it’s eternal consequences!

P.S. Please note that there is much more to my life than just the choir loft . . .



## Islam and the Middle East Further Reading

After Matt’s wonderful Adult Ed series on Islam and The Middle East, we asked Matt to put together a ‘further’ reading list. So, if what Matt said interested you, here are some books for you to consider:

An incisive and clarifying work on Arab culture is by Philip Carl Salzman, *Culture and Conflict in the Middle East*. (New York: Humanity Books). 2008.

Another perspective on Arab culture (a book banned by Arab countries) is by David Pryce-Jones, *The Closed Circle: An Interpretation of the Arabs*. (Chicago: HarperCollins). 1989.

A standard work comparing Christianity and Islam is by Norman Geisler and Abdul Saleeb, *Answering Islam: The Crescent in Light of the Cross*. (Grand Rapids: Baker Books). 2003.

The US has been involved in the Middle East from the days of the Declaration of Independence. Read a fascinating and very revealing history of US-Middle East relations by Michael B. Oren, *Power, Faith, and Fantasy: America in the Middle East: From 1776 to the Present*. (New York: W. W. Norton). 2007.

If you are brave enough to read something critical of Islam, I suggest anything by Ibn Warraq, i.e. *Leaving Islam: Apostates Speak Out*. (New York: Prometheus Books). 2003.

## *From ECW Thank you Plantation Tour Volunteers!*

Another wonderful Plantation Tour has ended and without rain! Many, many thanks to Marica Green and Ellen Stalvey, cochairs, and to the Plantation tour committee, and the many volunteers who helped them, for an outstanding job and for making the 61st Annual Plantation Tour run smoothly. We are also indebted to those home and plantation owners who make this delightful fund-raiser possible each year. We couldn’t do it without everyone working together.

A portion of the funds from the tour goes to outreach in the community and beyond and to parish requests. The ECW meeting to distribute these funds will be held on Tuesday morning, June 10, at 10 o’clock in the Parish Hall. Please come at 9:45 a.m. for light refreshments. This is an opportunity to learn about the needs in our community and our parish and to meet other women in the church. Every woman in the church is a member of ECW and is encouraged to come and vote. If you know of a nonprofit organization and would like to make a request for funds, please turn the request in to the Church Office before May 30 to be considered at the June 10 meeting. Forms are available in the office. Please include the most recent financial statement. If you have any questions, call Kay Mower at 651-7535.

**Visionary Parenting**  
**For ALL Parents**  
 Beginning on APRIL 27

**Sundays at 10:10 a.m. in the Panel Room**  
 Visionary Parenting will challenge you from scripture, to catch a vision for God's purpose for parenting, and equip you with tools to bridge the gap between where your family is today and where God is calling you to go.

**Join us for this EXCELLENT course.**

**For more information contact Andy Morgan,  
 546-4358 or andy@pgwinyah.org**

## THE GATES FAMILY RECITAL



On Sunday the 20th of April, we had the pleasure of hosting the Gates family recital in our Parish Hall. Laura Gates played the cello, Maddy the piano and Nathan the cello. It was a wonderful hour of listening to some great pieces of music and admiring the growing skills of the Gates family. After the recital, everyone enjoyed Gary Gates wonderful home made French Bread and punch!

*Parents-2-B* Please continue to pray for our expectant families and their babies, for healthy pregnancies and safe deliveries, for God's peace and rest, for protection from flu and colds; and for all God's blessings during this special time. Parents-2-B at this time are Joe & Maria Celeste, Jason & Bailey Dozier, Arthur & Alison Geer and Matt and Mave Walter. If you know other expecting Prince George families, please let us know so we can add them to our prayers.



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*The Cross and Crown* is produced monthly by Prince George Winyah Episcopal Church. If you have information for an upcoming issue, please email or submit your ideas or articles in writing to the church office to the Publications Committee before **May 12**.

## CATCH MEN'S HEARTS TAG THEM WITH CHRIST RELEASE DISCIPLES

### MEN'S MINISTRY UPDATE FROM APRIL 2008

Fifteen men attended the Christian men's conference at Camp St. Christopher in February. We came back energized with the Holy Spirit and full of ideas for our men's ministry. In follow up to this, we began the Wild at Heart book and video series. We'll offer the video series again soon, but if you would like a book we have approximately 30 left, compliments of the Man in the Mirror "books for \$1" program.



We got the idea for our new "outdoor ministry" at the Christian men's conference. The concept is simple, combine our love for being outdoors in God's creation with our CTR goal

of becoming disciples of Christ. Duff Dawson offered a chance for our inaugural event, and organized a turkey hunt in Williamsburg county. After a delicious meal prepared by Hank and Ged Tiller, we sat around the cabin and discussed our vision for the outdoor ministry concept. We heard testimony from several men about how Jesus has been guiding them in their lives. This was truly amazing. After the discussion, next was a quick lesson from Duff on hunting safety, calling, camouflage, and all the other important aspects of turkey hunting that take a lifetime to master. The next morning, we headed out before daylight for the hunt. Not only were we successful in our ministry, we were successful in bagging 2 trophy gobblers. Andy Roberts and Pete Williams pulled the trigger on 2 prized long beards. Duff's dad, J.B., and Duff's son, Baker, were staying and hunting nearby and bagged tree more gobblers. We are really excited about this outdoor ministry. Next on the agenda is a fishing weekend retreat. Other ideas are mountain hiking, four wheeler or dirt bike trail riding, canoe kayak adventures. More to come later.

Harry Oxner organized our recent quarterly meeting. We enjoyed some much needed social time, a steak dinner, and a Nooma video followed by insightful group discussion.

In addition to the traditional men's roles for Prince George Winyah, the CTR men's ministry will continue to offer opportunities for every man in our church to learn more about becoming a disciple of Christ. Here's a list of the attendees for the men's conference. Please contact us for more information.

Lee Jones, Scott Marlowe, Duff Dawson, Andy Roberts, John Benson, Pete Williams, Troy Hight, Phillip Ness, John Stalvey, Lance Padgett, Chuck Larson, David Stillman, Tom Winslow, Jason Hamshaw, and Paul Fuener.



## The Singing Servants

*By Jon Blamire – Music Director*

In many ways that should describe all Christians. The Bible, and especially the Psalms are full of encouragements to sing our praises and worship to God.

More particularly, there are those who God has equipped with a pleasing voice and servant heart who help lead the church in musical worship in our choirs and music groups.

I would like to say a big thank you to all those involved in our musical life, for their dedication to improving their skills as individuals and commitment to the various groups that meet to rehearse each week.

We have re-started the Junior Choir and with an average attendance of 16 young people. I am thrilled with their enthusiasm, skill and energy - I hope soon that they will begin to take part in our Sunday services. If any one else, aged 7+ would like to join, we meet at 4 p.m. on Wednesday afternoons.

Last week also saw the start of the young people in EYC meeting to lead their own musical worship on Sunday afternoon. It is a real privilege to help them use their skills and bring their praises to God. We had singers, drums, piano, guitars, flutes, violin and trumpet, and the things that impressed me most was the sensitivity of playing – no one wanted to be the loudest or to show off. It was a very humbling experience.

I'm still looking for more people to join the adult choir, especially men, and most particularly tenors. So, has God given you a voice the sing and a heart to serve?