

From the Editor's Den

“Hear Ye! Hear Ye!”

Have you seen the latest advert from the national pharmacy chain (with the name more suited to footwear)? It's promoting hearing tests by appealing to dog lovers – suggesting that their pets want their owners to be able to hear them – so book a hearing test now!

'Being heard' is a recurring theme in Scripture, mainly deafness to God's voice and His teaching, not due to any physical failing but instead, simply listening to someone or something else:

“. . . you pay no attention; your ears are open, but you do not listen.” (Isaiah 49:20)

Paul, in his final instruction, also quotes from Isaiah (6:9,10):

“Go to this people and say, 'You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving.' For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.” (Acts 28:26,27)

Hearing with the heart

'Listening' is a selective process; do we listen to the enemy?

The god of this age “has blinded the minds of unbelievers” (2Corinthians 4:4) whereas Jesus “opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.” (Luke 24:45)

Who are we listening to, and who are we speaking God's word to?

Opportunity: On Tuesday afternoon this week Fred Swartz will be in Lye for outreach and invites anyone to join him.



WORD Cloud of the week

In the diagram, the larger the words the more often they appear. Look out for them when you read this Old Testament book.



Source:
BlueLetter Bible /
Apps & Tools /
Free Social Tools.

LYRICS FOR LYFE A - Z

You are the Vine,
We are the branches,
Keep us abiding in You.

Then we'll grow in Your Love,
Then we'll go in Your Name,
That the world will surely know
That You have power to heal
and to save.

(Finally) Y: from 'You Are The Vine'



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(am. Monday–Thursday)

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* Items for the next edition *
to reach the **Administrator** by
Wednesday morning please
(Office closed Tuesday this week)

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PREVIEWS, POINTERS & PRAYER

Items for this page to the Administrator by Wednesday morning please
([Office Closed on Tuesday this week](#))

Previews

SUNDAY EVENING 6.30 FELLOWSHIP VIDEO this week will be continuing with another talk on the Sermon on the Mount, focusing on “*Condemnation and Discernment*” from Matthew chapter 7.

SATURDAY 11am-1pm. CHRISTMAS CRAFT for Adults
+ Coffee, Cake and Chat. (*Older children welcome.*)

CHRISTMAS SERVICES at a glance

Middy Carols – Friday 20th, 12.00pm followed by mulled wine.

Carols by Candlelight – Sunday 22nd, 6.30pm

Midnight Communion – Christmas Eve, 11.30pm

Christmas Day Service – Christmas Morning, 10.30am



Pointers

PILGRIM’S PROGRESS – Sunday Evening after Christmas.

We are considering showing this modern adaptation of John Bunyan’s famous book at a special screening on 29th December, 6.30–8.30pm in the church hall. Look out for further details here!

Ask Richard Young for more information if you’re thinking of coming

PILGRIM’S PROGRESS – 2025 Sunday Evening Video Talks.

To compliment the above end-of-year film, we’re planning a weekly audio-reading plus video talk about the original Pilgrim’s Progress.

Watch this space!

Prayer

CHURCH CHRISTMAS CARDS

Please take as many cards as you like to give to family, friends and neighbours, then pray for them as they read its message.



FREE BUS TRAVEL midweek after 7pm!

Today December 8	10.30am “Christingle” All-age Service 12.30pm Zimbabwean Church 6.30pm Evening Fellowship Video: ‘ <i>Condemnation and Discernment</i> ’ (Matt. 7) 6.30pm Youth Group Pray for newcomers and visitors to church
Monday	10am-5pm Library ‘ <i>Click & Collect</i> ’ 7.00pm Online Prayer Group Pray for members of the PCC
Tuesday	(<i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i>) 9.30am-4.00pm Library ‘ <i>Click & Collect</i> ’ <i>Afternoon local outreach with Fred Swartz</i> Pray for our Administrator and volunteers
Wednesday	10.00am Lion Club Pray for leaders and our church groups
Thursday	10am-5pm Library ‘ <i>Click & Collect</i> ’ Pray for external Groups using the Church
Friday	11am–2.00pm Warm Place 12.00pm Middy Worship Pray for staff of CPAS and Diocese
Saturday	11am-1pm CHRISTMAS CRAFT + Coffee, Cake and Chat, Pray for prospective vicar applicants
Next Sunday	10.30am Holy Communion <i>Reading: Malachi 3:1-5</i> 12.30pm Zimbabwean Church 6.30pm Evening Fellowship Video 6.30pm Youth Group

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