

HEARING EYE

THE VOICE OF OPEN EARS



ISSUE 178

AUTUMN2023

- **WELCOME FROM TRACY**
- **EMERGENCY SMARTPHONE APP**
- **RETIREMENT OF CHRISTINE PITTS**
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Welcome to the Autumn edition of Hearing Eye.

Personally, I love Autumn as I prefer the crisper days to the heat of Summer and the colours of the leaves on the trees are so sensational. Just by stepping out of the door, my heart is drawn to worship our God who makes everything beautiful.

In the year's calendar, Autumn heralds the drawing in of the end of the year. The harvest is gathered and stored for winter. Long sunny days come to an end. The birds start migrating and the trees drop their leaves.



But while these are valid questions, the very fact that the trees reveal their greatest splendour not in Spring or Summer, as beautiful as those months are, but in Autumn, should speak to us of the wonderful fact that we are never out of God's heart and plan.



God says to us, 'Even to your old age and grey hairs, I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you. I will sustain you and I will rescue you.'

Isaiah 46: 4-5

This is such a wonderful promise for us to take hold of as we enter this new Autumn season and perhaps accept that we are in that equivalent place in our own lives. When we belong to Him, although life may change and we still face uncertainty, weakening and loss, we can be sure that we are all, in Isaiah's words called to be 'a planting of the Lord for the display of His splendour.(Isaiah 61:4)

How does God want to reveal His splendour through you in this season of your life? Just as every tree is unique in the way they display the golds and reds of Autumn, so the way He chooses to shine His splendour through you is unique. And remember, in creation nothing is wasted, the very leaves that fall to the ground nurture the soil and provide protection for plants and animals. Equally, nothing is wasted in our life experiences either. Our very times of loss and change can empower us to be authentic channels of His love and compassion to those around us. As Paul says in 2 Cor 1:3-4 'Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.'

If you feel lonely or have experienced recent loss or are in a life changing situation, God your Father is there to comfort you in this season of your life. He knows and feels all you are going through but wants to open your eyes to the riches of His love, care and the beauty of all He wants to do through you to touch others with His love.

It's my hope you will find this edition of Hearing Eye both informative and inspirational. Be encouraged by the articles, take note of the dates of special events as we'd love to see you join us for a prayer time, quiz or conference. Enjoy the colouring in fun page and consider reading the book we've reviewed. Remember, Hearing Eye is Your magazine, and we'd love to hear your stories, poems, humorous anecdotes, or tips for coping with hearing loss. Could contributing things to inspire or help others in Open Ears be part of how God wants to use you in this season? You'll see there is an article about how God may be calling you! Be inspired and be bold and we'd love to hear from you.

Tracy Williamson

Retirement of Christine Pitts as Trustee for Open Ears

Many of you will have known and appreciated Christine over the many years of her involvement with Open Ears – she became part of Hard of Hearing Christian Fellowship, as it was then, in 1994.

In her role as Administrator, Christine was often the first person enquirers met, and what a lovely welcome to Open Ears she always gave! Christine worked tirelessly for all involved with Open Ears, quietly and efficiently ensuring that everything ran smoothly and efficiently. For many years she it was who sent Hearing Eye to the publisher, and then posted out copies to our members.

Christine had a great depth of knowledge and love for each one of our members, being able to recall personal anecdotes and prayer requests to share with the Team, always with sensitivity and deep insight.

The many articles, both light hearted and more serious, which Christine has contributed to Hearing Eye and to the blogs on our website, have frequently drawn a tear as well as a smile as she has gently opened our eyes and hearts to the love and care that Jesus has for each one.

Over recent years Chris has had personal issues to deal with, and especially the loss of her dear husband, Geoff, earlier this year. And so she feels that the time is right for her to stand down as a Trustee. We hope that her involvement and contribution to Open Ears will continue, and look forward to seeing her at future events.

I am sure that you will join me in saying: Thank you, Christine, and may the Lord bless and keep you in His loving care.

Anthea

I Can't Hear God by Susanne Willdig

My son, Dominic, is seven years old. His is a scientific, analytic mind; and he tends to take things very literally, which can at times cause hilarity and at other times real confusion.

A few weeks ago, we sat around the dinner table and I said, let's say grace now – Dominic, why don't you do that? Now, Dominic has been at the dinner table almost every evening of his life and has heard either myself or Victor give thanks to God for the food. So I was convinced he knew what I meant.

Dominic just said: "Grace!"

Because I thought he was trying to be a clown, I frowned and began telling him off – until I saw the confusion in his eyes. I took him to the living room for a little conversation and it turns out, in his mind he was only following directions: I had asked him to say grace, and he said grace! So why was I annoyed with him when he was just doing what I told him to do?

This literal mind finds it difficult to work with pictures or similes; and so we've been having many conversations about hearing God speak, because he finds it hard to understand the concept. "I can't hear him! He's not saying anything to me!"

This past week, IVSS Churchear [Churchear is the European equivalent of Open Ears] came together in Sweden to work through the next chapter of the Erasmus+ Handbook, "Taking Part is Possible". Spending time with, and communicating with people who had varying degrees of hearing loss as well as speaking a different language gave me an idea to try and make the idea of hearing God better understandable to Dominic.

I explained: "This person can't hear what I'm saying, unless they have a hearing aid. Whereas that person reads my lips and that's how they



know what I'm saying. Or I write down what I want to say so they can read it. Still another person, who doesn't speak English or German, looks at my hand gestures and the faces I make.

None of them hear my voice with their ears, but they still find a way to understand what I'm saying."

He thought for a moment. "I can't hear God. I can't see his lips either. Do I need a hearing aid?" I said, "Perhaps... not a real one with a battery though." (Not sure this was going well...)

He thought some more. "When someone can't hear you, they look at you to see what you mean. Or you write it down. God makes everything... maybe he sometimes does stuff around me so I can see what he wants to say – like, that's his way of writing?"

Me: "God can speak without saying anything out loud to your ears, yes."

Dominic: "He can make stuff happen. He can do things around me so I'll notice. Is that it?"

Me: "Yes, and that's just one of many ways he can communicate with you. He has lots of ways."

That was the end of the conversation, but I think it finally shed some light on a topic Dominic found very difficult to comprehend. God communicates. He is the master communicator! And it's not just Dominic who learned something here, but myself as well; at Churchear I see so much creativity in communicating with others, along with a patience and holding space for others – that, surely, is God's way too. He is patient, he communicates with us in a multitude of ways, and he holds space as we figure it out. That's beautiful, and I feel like I've only just scratched the surface.

How have you heard God speak lately?

*My sheep hear my voice,
I know them and they follow me.*

John 10:27



You're having a laugh!

People told Beethoven he couldn't be a great musician because he was deaf

But did he listen to the critics?



How do you stop Deaf people arguing?

Turn the lights off!



Did you know that the most common auto correct substitute for the word 'Deaf' just happens to be the word 'Dead'.

This slight error can lead to such text conversations as...

"I have to tell you that I'm a bit dead."

Or my favourite: **"I was born dead."**



Nothing is impossible with God

Luke 1:37

Deaf Worship by Tracy Williamson

In 2021 many of us had the joy of watching deaf actor Rose Ayling-Ellis win Strictly Come Dancing.



Her dancing was beautiful and I felt astounded at how she was able to move so perfectly in time to the music and interpret its mood.

Dancing to music may be something that many of us with hearing loss automatically disqualify ourselves from. I did this for years, but when I first joined my friend and colleague

Marilyn Baker in her music ministry, if ever I was cheeky she would say laughingly that she was going to make me dance in the concert to one of her songs as a forfeit! I would laugh too, knowing that was an impossibility. I admired Christian dancers like those I saw at Spring Harvest, but would hold myself afar from any suggestion that I could dance myself.

Joining in worship full stop always seems very difficult as I never know where I am in the song. If I could sign, I'd enjoy following signed worship which is poignant and beautiful. But while some of us are fortunate to have signed services, most of us try to fit into our regular services with no such help. I'm sure that like me, you know that feeling of standing mutely in the middle of a worshipping church feeling that everyone else is connecting to God but you? How can I ever know the joy of worshipping my God when I can't even join in the songs?

Some years ago now a doorway opened to me of worshipping with my body through movement and mime. Marilyn suggested

at a conference we were involved in, that I take over leading a dance workshop that a professional dancer had to cancel. I ran away from the idea! How could I do such a thing? But God spoke to me, whispering into my heart that it might actually help people, if their leader felt she couldn't do it! God's wisdom is topsy turvy to ours but somehow I knew from that whisper that I should take up the challenge and 2 days later we had our very first dance workshop, putting simple mime movements to the words. Marilyn helped me by nodding at the start of each verse and then I would listen out for the strong consonant sounds to try to align myself correctly. I would use only songs of Marilyn's that I was very familiar with but I found it wonderfully freeing to use my arms and body to convey the meaning of the words rather than trying to sing. Over the years people with all sorts of disabilities or mental/emotional hang-ups have joined in the workshops with me and it has been beautiful and releasing.

Another way I have experimented with worship that doesn't depend on me following the song is the use of banners or flags. Banners are large or small and in a variety of strong 'royal' colours such as red, purple and gold. The colours are meaningful with the purple and gold often representing the majesty of Jesus, blue, the still waters or streams of the Spirit, White, His purity or the cleansing He brings us, Green the nurture and growth of the Spirit . . . It's very powerful to take up the banner while the music is playing and wave, twirl or wrap it round me; to praise God as King or to receive His love; the way I use and hold the banner signifying my own unspoken heart cry to God.

Sometimes while everyone else sings, I like to just reflect on the words before me. I forget about trying to be in time with everyone else and just dwell in what the words are saying to me, letting them fill my thoughts and emotions, drinking in their meaning. I may also take up pen and paper and, as worship flows around me, express

my own love for Him in words that I write down. They may originate from the words of the song but then become my own song.

Feeling that we need to 'fit' in with how others worship can be tiring and dispiriting, so I find it's important to make my own way of worship at home alone as well as in the church context. I love to have a bath and while soaking in the hot water belt out a worship song at the top of my voice no longer worrying but simply worshipping. Meditating or reflecting on His Word or fulfilling household chores with a love song in my heart

God dwells in the praises of His beloved and in our uniqueness, every personal way we can find to express our love to Him will bless Him and fill our own hearts with joy for He is never looking for us to fit in but for us to be in the place of loving and being loved.



***You are a chosen people,
a royal priesthood, a holy
nation,
God's special possession,
that you may declare the
praises
of Him who called you
out of darkness
into His wonderful light.***

1 Peter 2:9

Benaiah and the Kindness Tree by Joy Vee,

reviewed by Anthea Owen

Published by Broad Place Publishing – available from
www.thegreatbritishbookshop.co.uk

This delightful paperback book for children is beautifully illustrated and carries a positive message about kindness. Benaiah, who has a cochlear implant, thinks that leaves from a particular tree have special powers. He shares his idea with his friend, Kaiyah-Rose, and together they look for opportunities to be super kind. Eventually, Benaiah comes to understand that kindness is not a ‘magic gift’ but a response to seeing God’s kindness and being grateful. “When I am thankful for everything He’s given me, I find it easy to be kind to others.” The book closes with some ideas to help the readers join Benaiah’s and Kaiyah-Rose’s quest to “see who we can be kind to today.”

Perhaps we could all do to “let thankfulness bubble in our hearts for a while” and see if it makes us want to be kinder and make someone’s life better.

If you have any primary school children for whom you buy Christmas gifts, this could be a good place to start.

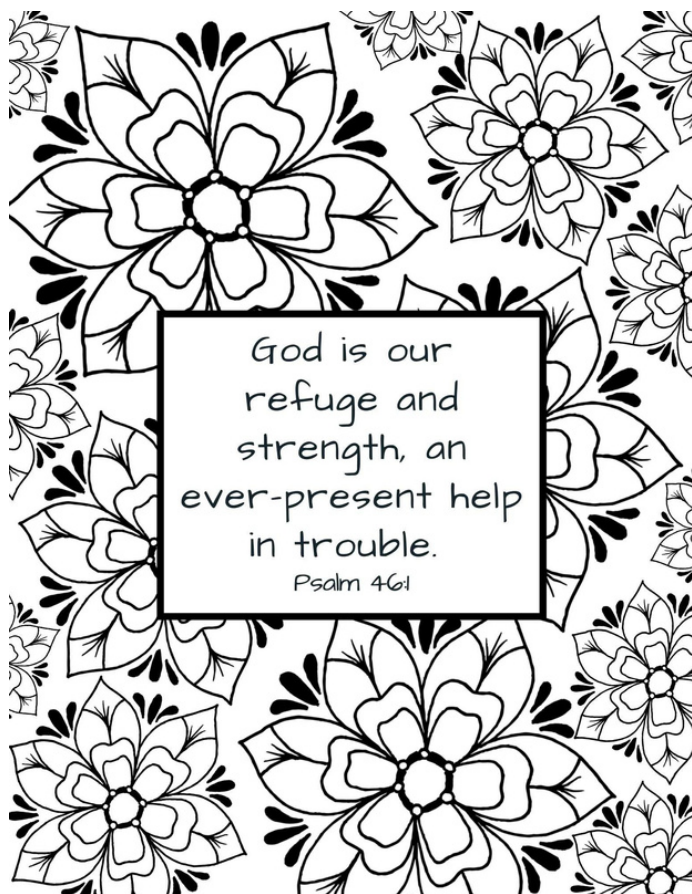


A fun colouring experience for you.

We've often put puzzles and wordsearches in Hearing Eye and we will continue to do so, but just for a change in this edition, we've included this lovely template for you to colour, of 'God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help in trouble.' Psalm 46:1

Find some crayons, pencils or felt pens and have a go at making this your own unique statement of trust and faith.

Enjoy!



An exciting event to consider for 2024

Over the last few years we've had engagement with our European sister charity IVSS Churchear and in most years one of our committee members has attended their conferences with our very own STT interpreter, 'Flying Fingers' Susanne going to do the English STT for the last 2 years. This letter is to let us know of the date of the 2024 conference which will be held in Oslo, Norway! I'd love to go as Norway is beautiful!

Dear friends

Autumn has come, with new tasks and new challenges. I hope that summer and vacations have given you new strength to meet them. It is my pleasure to be the first to tell you that the **21st International Conference for Pastoral Care among Hard of Hearing will take place in Oslo, the capital of Norway, from August 23rd to Monday 26th 2024.**

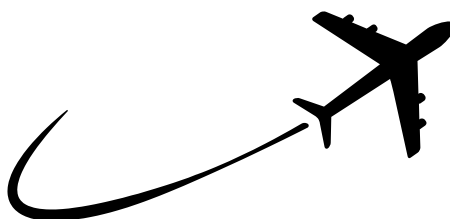
We have booked a conference venue with a beautiful view over the city, and not far from the church of our secretary, Eyolf Berg. I do hope to see you all there.

With kind regards

Susanne Willdig

Board member / Vorstandsmitglied

IVSS Churchear



At the passing of those we love and respect

We received this Midsummer news from IVSS Churchear with the news of the passing of Hans Neuhold and it made me realise afresh the importance of acknowledging the impact on us of those we love when they pass into glory and also of drawing real comfort and hope from the Bible's promises of resurrection and eternal life.

Midsummer News from IVSS Churchear

Dear friends!

This spring was a very short one here in Norway. At the beginning of May we still had more or less wintry conditions, and only three weeks later it was almost mid-summery. The last two days we have had the first proper rain in seven weeks! Not that I don't enjoy summer and sun, but these extraordinary weather conditions make me wonder what we are doing to the world God gave us to care for. I will, however, not write so much about summer and sun in this letter, nor about the earth and how we manage it. I want to write about an old friend of mine – and of many of us. I want to write about Hans Neuhold – or Johan, which was his official name. We, however, knew him mostly as Hans.

I got acquainted with Hans many years ago, at the conference in Vienna in 2000 I think it must have been, and instinctively I felt that this was a man I could like. As we learned to know each other better, a profound friendship grew between us. It was never boring with Hans. The smile and the laughter were right under the surface. But he was never superficial. I had the fortune to be on the board together with Hans for some years, and I enjoyed working together with him. He was always very active in the debates during the board meetings, and when Hans took a task upon him, we knew it would be performed properly.

During my time with IVSS Churchear Hans twice gave lectures at our conferences. His lectures were held in a clear and for most German speaking foreigners understandable German, with content and a structure making it easy to remember what he had been speaking about. He knew how to speak to a hearing impaired audience, probably because he was hearing impaired himself, being deafened and carrying CIs on both sides.

His way into IVSS Churchear was through his assignment as leader for the Pastoral Care among Hard of hearing within the Roman Catholic diocese Graz in Austria, a position he retired from in 2012. The same year was also the last time he came to our conferences and retired also from the board.

Life had, despite his smiles and his cheerfulness, not always been kind to Hans, and we, his friends fully shared his joy when it became clear that he had found a new start with Sissy, his co-worker through many years. They shared at deep love for each other, and where Hans was, Sissy wasn't far away – and vice versa. For me, I'm grateful for the good years they were allowed to share with each other, only I would have wished that they had got many more. In January Sissy told me that Hans was severely ill from cancer. For some time it seemed that he reacted positively to the treatment he got, but when he also got Covid with complications, it became too much for him, and on March 29th he died peacefully. The burial took place in Vienna on April 14th, and despite difficulties getting flight tickets I managed to get there and take farewell with my years-long good friend and our years-long member and board member, on behalf of all of us.

So: Have we then lost our friend Hans? Hans was a devout Catholic Christian, and as Catholics we believe that a friend or a beloved one passing away is not a friend or a beloved one lost to us. True, we can no longer see them, hear them or touch them. But we believe that they now are a part of that great multitude that St. John was allowed

to see (Rev 7,9–10), standing before the throne and the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands ... There they continue praying for us who still live here on this earth. I'm convinced that Hans, the devout Christian he was, now stands among them. So, no, we have not lost him. We have got another intercessor in Heaven, before God, and one day we shall see him again there. Of that I'm in no doubt.

Eyolf Berg

Some verses to comfort all who are walking the path of loss and bereavement.



The body that is sown is perishable.

It is raised imperishable.

It is sown in dishonour. It is raised in glory.

It is sown in weakness. It is raised in power.

It is sown a material body; it is raised a spiritual body.

1 Cor 15:42-44

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, trust also in me.

In my Father's house are many rooms . . .

I am going there to prepare a place for you.

And if I go and prepare a place for you I will come back and take you to be with me, that you also may be where I am.

John 14: 1-3



New Emergency Smartphone App



There is a new emergency smartphone app available, called **Relay UK**, which can be downloaded for free from the Google Play Store (Android devices) or the App Store (Apple iOS devices).

For more details, visit relayuk.bt.com/how-to-use-relay-uk/contact-999-using-relay-uk.html

Once set up and linked to your mobile phone number, the app connects you with a Relay Assistant (RA) when you make a call. There are three options for Deaf and hard of hearing users:-

I'll be typing and reading

I'll be typing and hearing

I'll be speaking and reading

To make a call, just go into the app and tap the blue dotted icon. For an emergency call, tap the red 999 button at the top of the screen and then confirm.

The Relay Assistant will answer the call and ask you which emergency service you require: Police, Ambulance, Fire Rescue or Coastguard, and you can type or speak your reply.

Alternatively, you can call 18000 direct on your phone's keypad to make an emergency call, but you must already have the Relay UK app installed on your phone.

Note: There is also an option to adjust the speech text size in Settings on the app.



Relay UK



Open Ears Together.

Open Ears Together
Is a constant help to me
Prayerfully put together
By our faithful Emily.

God's Word comes to us clearly
In the opening chosen text.
I hasten to read quickly on
To see what thoughts come next.

I like to get this email
With its always helpful word.
It makes me pause to think myself
And brings me to the Lord.

It's good to share together
Our faith in this sure way.
Give thanks for Emily's Ministry
Which, praise be, is here to stay.

Jim Horsnell.



To sign up for 'Together', email Emily at
together@openears.org.uk

The Beauty and Wonder of God's Word by Bob Lewington



St John 3 v 16 is a very important verse. It is called a Gospel in a nutshell. Why? You can actually 'see' the word, **GOSPEL** in this verse:-

“For **G**od so loved the world, that He gave His **O**nly begotten **S**on, that whosoever believeth in Him should not **P**erish, but have **E**verlasting **L**ife.” **GOSPEL**



Gospel means Good News. Do you know why it is called NEWS?

N – North **E** – East **W** – West **S** – South

The four points of the compass.

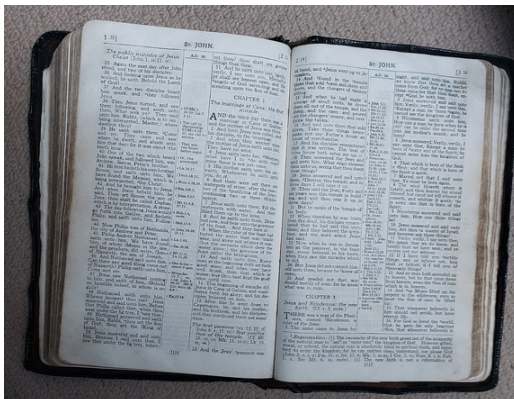
News comes all around the world all the time, especially God's Words.

I trust this will be a blessing to many.



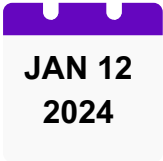
*How beautiful on the mountain are the feet of those
who bring GOOD NEWS,
who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings,
who proclaim salvation,
who say to Zion, “Your God reigns!”*

Isaiah 52:7





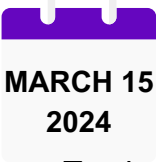
**‘Approaching Christmas’
(online) conference: 2-3.30pm**



**Members’ Prayer Time
(online): 2-3pm**



**World Day of Prayer Service
(online): 7pm**



**Easter Conference
(online): 2-3.20pm**

To sign up and to get the Zoom link, please contact us at info@openears.org.uk

Our online events are fully accessible with Speech to Text.



Emily Owen who writes our Open Ears Together weekly email has kindly given permission to include this excerpt from her newsletter.

In Open Ears we are all impacted by Emily’s writing and compassionate way of drawing us into God’s loving care and I thought it would be lovely to share this so we can be praying for Emily as she walks the journey of her life with Jesus. Bless you Emily for all you give to us in so many ways



Through The Roof

I will be running an online retreat with Through the Roof, which is planned to take place November 27 - December 1.

Here's a prayer I wrote for Through the Roof's Disability Awareness Sunday service in September. The service was used at many churches.

A lovely thing for me was that the man who helped my writing find a publisher, way back, was surprised to find that the prayer he was reading aloud during the service was written by me.

Father God,

Sometimes we compare ourselves with other people.

***We can't be like them, however much we wish we could.
Help us to remember that you made each one of us.***

***We don't need to be like someone else.
We're special to You just as we are.
You rejoice over us"***

***Help us to do what we can
without worrying about what we can't.***

***Help us to be who we are
without worrying about who we're not.***

***Thank you that You are always with us,
encouraging, strengthening, and guiding us,
as we each fill a space in Your world that only we can fill.***

Amen

Have you heard the Lord calling you?

God calls us to be fully alive—and in that living, to grow in faith, serve the church, and transform the world.

At Open Ears, we try, with God's help, to transform the world of individuals affected by hearing loss. Trustees and Team members feel called to serve the Lord and His people in this amazing and rewarding way.

Have you heard the Lord calling you?

A call is always personal, it builds on one's spiritual gifts, it often starts as a 'nudge' then grows and becomes more persistent. A call is a response to a summons. It is a kind of surrendering. It is a challenge and a joy. Author C. S. Lewis wrote, "To follow the [calling] does not mean happiness, but once it has been heard, there is no happiness for those who do not follow."

Have you heard the Lord calling you?

It is not uncommon for people to resist when they sense God's call - even Moses did! The most frequent excuse is, "I don't have the ability, the time, or the courage to follow a calling." But, when God calls He also provides.

Have you heard the Lord calling you?

The Bible is full of call stories: Noah; Abraham and Sarah; Esther; Mary; Peter; Paul – the list goes on.

Sometimes a calling comes like a lightning bolt sent straight from God, but most people go through a series of steps, a cycle of discernment and action:

Revelation: a clear glimpse of what God is calling you to be or do.

Resistance: A phase filled with doubt and questions.

Commission: God's voice becomes clearer, and you feel compelled to respond.

Partnership: A time when your call begins to fit into the ministry, others begin to discern it with you, and your call becomes part of the ministry's call.

Service: You move into action, bringing God's call to life.

God has gifted each one of us to make the world better. As His body on earth, we are chosen and called to bring His presence to others.

Have you heard the Lord calling you?

God's call may mean letting go of things that are comfortable in order to let something else come in their place. This can be difficult and takes real honesty with ourselves and with God. But ignoring our call, trying to block it out, does not serve God or His people, and can lead to deep unhappiness. At church last week the preacher posed the question, "If I don't do the task that the Lord is calling me to, will it be left undone?"

It might be that an unanswered call leaves a hole in the world. Praying and asking God to help us hear His call helps to create the space for the Spirit to show how we can be part of fulfilling His purposes.

Have you heard the Lord calling you?

Open Ears is actively looking for people to join us in this ministry. We need volunteers who love the Lord Jesus and who have a heart to enrich the lives of those with hearing loss.

We can support you in setting up a local group, in your home, church, community centre, care home etc where you can meet to have fellowship and to share the online events organised by Open Ears.

We are particularly looking for:

- **people with website experience or social media skills**
- **fundraisers**
- **trustees**
- **creative thinkers**
- **strategists**

If you are interested in joining the Team, or would like to know more, please email anthea@openears.org.uk or write to me, Anthea Owen, 6 Westfield Road, Leicester LE3 6HR and we can explore God's calling together.



'The Joy of our Autumn Zoom Conference Harvest and First Fruits

by Tracy Williamson



On Friday Sept 8th we had a lovely Autumn Zoom Conference, sharing the joy of harvest and first fruits and their spiritual meaning with about 20 guests from Open Ears family and some visitors. We've shared earlier how Autumn can symbolise to us a time of endings and change, but of course its also a season of great productivity and celebration as the seeds that have been planted throughout the year come into fruition and harvested. It was a joy to think together about the meaning of feast and celebration days in the Old and New Testaments and realise how much God always delights and celebrates over us .

In the conference we were given STT by Karen Pritchard as Susanne was away and despite a few techy problems to start, she did a wonderful job of enabling us all to follow. Thank you Karen!

Soprano singer/songwriter, Ann Steer, who helped us at the Christmas event was again a great blessing. She led us in some traditional hymns about harvest like I the Lord of Sea and Sky and Great is thy Faithfulness; and also sang her own composition, Living Hope which was beautiful and uplifting. Different committee members shared reflections around the theme including amongst others, a look at Creation and Climate Change by Anthea Owen, Harvest Festivals in the Old Testament by Mary Bucknall and Firstfruits of the Spirit by Marylin Kilsby. Lovely times of prayer were led by Julia Chapman and Open Ears members Jim Horsnell and Betty Course.

I found it amazing that with us all coming from different angles and emphases, yet there was a coherent sense of joy and God working to bring about beautiful things. A real time of celebration.

Some of the comments afterwards were:

‘What a lovely time that was.’
‘I was singing along,’
‘That particular reflection really spoke to’

Thanks to Mary for suggesting the programme, Anthea for pulling it together and all who took part and helped.

Tracy Williamson

Do consider joining us when we have the next one on
Friday December 15, 2-3.30pm



Members' Poetry

Keeping Going.



I keep our chemist busy
Like many who are old.
Taking tablets keeps me going.
“You need them”. So I’m told.

Keeping warm in Winter
Is another thing that’s right.
So in bed there’s a hot water bottle
When we have a chilly night.



I try to take some exercise
To keep my limbs in trim.
It’s not so easy as it was
The effort’s sometimes grim!!

“Drink lots of water every day
It does your system good”.

I really try to do this
But can’t swallow all I should.



One thing that keeps me going
Is a good old friendly chat
And a hearty laugh or two each day,
I can usually manage that.

Jim Horsnell

Ordinary People



We're just ordinary people,
living ordinary lives.
Trying to get along together,
Brothers, Sisters, Husbands, Wives.

But there's one thing that makes us special,
and it's not what we have done.
It's a gift from God in Heaven,
in the person of His Son.



How could He ever leave such glory,
coming down to sinful earth?
Where many people didn't want Him,
didn't recognise His worth.

But for those who do receive Him
He gives peace and joy and love.
We're accepted as His children
getting blessings from above.



So accept Him as your Saviour.
Let Him all your sins forgive.
He waits for you to come to Him
for there's no better way to live.

Pam Butler.



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