

## **Bishop Sutton Community Church Letter**

July is a time when we can start summer pruning: cutting vine branches back to let light in to help the fruit ripen, pruning also lets air in to minimise disease and thinning the bunches of grapes enables good size grape clusters to develop. The wisteria is trimmed back to the seventh bud to produce many flowering buds the following year. Apples and pears can be pruned back to 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of their growth which will encourage them to produce fruiting spurs for the following year (rather than the year after) as well as letting in light to ripen the apples.

Many fruit trees shed some of their fruit in late June / early July to limit the amount of fruits that they can support but my Victoria Plum will crop so heavily that branches bearing fruit break off under their own weight. There are also cases of apple trees fruiting so heavily one year but exhausting themselves to the point of not even blossoming the next year and falling into a two-year fruiting cycle. It's much better to limit the fruit they bear rather than have this happen; you may get less fruit but much bigger and better fruit!

As we move into the summer holidays with time to rest and reflect, why not ask God "are there things that need to be pruned out of my life for more and better fruitfulness?" Jesus said:

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful...If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing...This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples". (John 15:1-8).

God bless,

Dave & Jenny Dickerson, Tel: 01275 332746 Mob: 07766331146.

## **Bishop Sutton Community Church Activities:**

**Sunday gatherings:** 10:00am ... a time of worship, teaching, fellowship, encouragement and prayer. We run hybrid services from the Village Hall so you can join us in person or on line with Zoom.

**Connection:** 7:30-9:00pm ish on the first Monday in the month in the Village Hall Taylor Room and on Zoom for going deeper together in worship, prayer and connecting with the Holy Spirit.

**Mid-week courses and fellowship meetings:** Our mid-week fellowship and discipleship meetings have finished for the summer and will resume in September.

**Ukrainian Hub:** Fridays 10:30am-1:00pm. Thank you to all who have and are helping in so many different ways; Special thanks to Duncan at the Red Lion, Bishop Sutton Football Club and the Village Hall for free Bar-BQ, burgers and ice cream to Ukrainian families at the Jubilee celebrations and to Arthur David for their ongoing support. Please continue to hold these broken families and the situation in Ukraine in your prayers.

**Keynsham Food Bank:** The following items are needed and can be donated at Chew Valley Spar in Bishop Sutton: sugar (small bags), UHT fruit juice, Pot noodles, Macaroni cheese and Toiletries. If you hear of people in difficulty, contact Dave/Jenny to help these needy people.

**Lonely or self-isolating?** If anyone is lonely or self-isolating and would appreciate a call, internet meeting or in need of help, please contact us.

**To join us on line on Zoom:** Click on the link on our facebook page / web site or use the Meeting ID: 871 1725 3595 and Passcode: 578732.

Email: [bishopsuttoncommunitychurch@hotmail.com](mailto:bishopsuttoncommunitychurch@hotmail.com)

Web: [www.bishopsuttoncommunitychurch.com](http://www.bishopsuttoncommunitychurch.com)

Facebook: @BishopSuttonCommunityChurch