



August Newsletter – Kids Update

We hope that you enjoyed the last month and that you managed to escape any bubble closures. For us, three of the weeks of July were spent with children isolating. It's been an interesting month! However, for me seeing the sunshine makes a lot of difference and I enjoyed waking up to the sun during the sunny days we have had. I was just thinking this morning about God's faithfulness and His mighty power – this is what I read today in Proverbs 30:4-5...

Who but God goes up to heaven and comes back down?

Who holds the wind in his fists?

Who wraps up the oceans in his cloak?

Who created the whole wide world?

What is his name?

Tell me if you know!

Every word of God proves true.

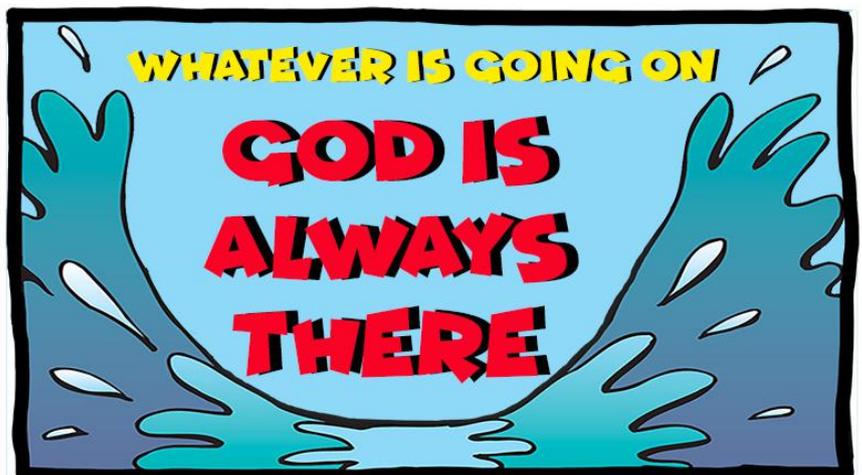
He is a shield to all who come to him for protection.

I hope these verses encourage you as you remember just how great God is and how we don't need to worry because He has got us and He is in charge.

Whatever is Going On... God is Always There

We hope that you enjoyed our *Walk & Talk with God* series and that the stories of Precious Child helped you and your child/children to remember the brilliant love and provision that God has for us.

Our series this month is looking at Exodus. We will see that our Bible heroes faced a lot of opposition and difficulty, sometimes out of their own making, but what they discovered is that **Whatever is Going On... God is Always There.**



In-Person Services

Don't forget to check out the [church website](#) to find out what is on offer for families and children on Sundays. This now differs across the sites (depending on space and capacity), so you'll need to click through to the tickets for your site for that week to see what's happening.

Amazing Resources for Over the School Holidays!

The **Cheeky Pandas** (you will have sung along to some of their songs in our [Kids at Home](#) videos) have just created some children's video content and added new songs to their website. It's all free and it's brilliant. It's called **Cheeky Panda TV** and it's like a children's TV channel with some famous guests each week. For example, they have Bear Grylls, Justin Welby, Guvna B and Gemma Hunt (from CBeebies!) as well as several other famous people. Each week they cover a new theme and have songs and stories to share. It's worth checking out!

Things to do in the holidays

As more places open up, you might be thinking about what you could do with the kids. I was sent a list of ideas by a member of the church last week, so I'm going to share it here. I haven't been to these places and don't know what they are like but, why not search it up online and see if it's somewhere you might like to go. The list will be at the end of this letter. As always, local parks are always great fun for the kids and the local libraries are running the usual reading challenge to encourage kids to read over the holidays. My kids have always loved doing this. It's free and the kids get little rewards along the way. You just need to sign up at your local library or you can do the challenge online if you would prefer.

And finally...

Whatever you get up to, have fun and keep safe. Remember to think about how you can share Jesus with your kids this summer. It doesn't have to be big – just praying together helps build good habits with our kids. Have a great summer and look forward to seeing you soon.

Kerri-jane Lamb
Children's Work Pastor

List of places to go over the Summer

Some of these are free, others are quite expensive, so do remember to look on the website to see if it's a place that would suit you and your family. I have not visited these places, so do make your own judgements on how appropriate they are for your family.

- ♥ Allhallows beach
- ♥ Allington Lock next to Kent Life. It's a lovely wander by the river, has a big befeater style pub and you can jump on a little boat to take a trip to Maidstone and back.
- ♥ Badgers Hill Farm & Cidery
- ♥ Bedgebury Pinetum - (Forestry England is lovely 😊)
- ♥ Bewl Water
- ♥ Bluewater nature trail
- ♥ Botany Bay
- ♥ Broadditch Farm Shop / Events
- ♥ Buttercups Sanctuary for Goats News & Appeals
- ♥ Buzy bees, New Ash
- ♥ Capstone Farm Country Park
- ♥ Cascades little train
- ♥ Chatham Dockyard - currently has Lego through the ages.....
- ♥ Cheeky Dino, Maidstone
- ♥ Chatham Ski Centre, there's the toboggan run and sometimes the inflatable donuts on the mini slope. It's right next to Capstone Park too.
- ♥ Chessington World of Adventures Resort
- ♥ Christmas Tree Farm
- ♥ Cliffe pools is amazing too
- ♥ Cobtree Park - next to Kentlife
- ♥ Colchester Zoo
- ♥ Cyclopark
- ♥ Danson Park - has play park & water play
- ♥ Dartford Central park is free! Mini splash play area.
- ♥ Diggerland
- ♥ Dover Castle
- ♥ Dunloran Park, Tunbridge Wells
- ♥ Drusillas Park
- ♥ Eagle Heights
- ♥ Eltham Palace grounds are free.
- ♥ Eynesford stream
- ♥ Folkestone lower leas costal Park and the fountains at Folkestone harbour make a good free day out
- ♥ Folkestone museum
- ♥ Friars Aylesford
- ♥ Gillingham Strand
- ♥ Godstone Farm
- ♥ Guildhall Museum in Rochester
- ♥ Grain seaside is always good

- ♥ Gravesend has the fort gardens. Chantry house museum is free and the bunker tunnels are £1! There's the prom and the park. A little cafe. A pretty, short walk around. It's lovely there. It's also part of the wheels of time trail around Kent.
- ♥ Greenwich Ecology Park is free and often has special events in the holidays.
- ♥ Groombridge place
- ♥ Hall Place - lovely, free to enter and beautiful grounds. Lots of trees and shade plus a little stream running through it
- ♥ Hemsley Conservation Centre
- ♥ Herne Bay - good for crabbing
- ♥ Huguenot Museum - Quite small but might be interesting, particularly to older children, and is part of the Wheels of Time.
- ♥ Hobbledown Farm
- ♥ Hop Farm
- ♥ Howletts Wildlife Animal Park
- ♥ Hythe has a flat promenade perfect for bikes and scooters.
- ♥ Jeskyns Park
- ♥ Kearsney Abbey is a fab day
- ♥ Kent Life
- ♥ Kingsdown beach
- ♥ Knockhatch adventure park - over an hr away
- ♥ Leeds Castle
- ♥ Legoland
- ♥ Little fant farm
- ♥ Little Street, Maidstone
- ♥ Longleat Safari Park
- ♥ Loose Village stream
- ♥ Lower Leas Costal Folkestone
- ♥ Lullingston Country Park
- ♥ Maidstone Museum
- ♥ Maidstone Leisure Centre - has soft play and Ice Hills. It's also right next to Mote Park in Maidstone so great for a morning of activity then a picnic and a wander in the fresh air
- ♥ Manor Park
- ♥ Marsh Farm
- ♥ Millbrook Garden Centre - check out events/butterfly experience
- ♥ Milton Creek Country Park
- ♥ Minis Bay
- ♥ Monkeybizz, Medway
- ♥ Mote Park
- ♥ Old McDonalds Farm (Essex)

- ♥ Owletts
- ♥ Oxleas Woods is lovely
- ♥ Penenden Heath play area and woods
- ♥ Rare Breeds Centre
- ♥ Reindeer Centre
- ♥ Richborough Roman Fort And Amphitheatre - Younger children may be bored, but older ones who can listen to the audio commentary and read the panels might find it interesting. Really good for any kids learning about Romans.
- ♥ Riverside Park
- ♥ Rochester Castle
- ♥ Rochester Cathedral
- ♥ Ruxley Manor - check out events
- ♥ Shorne Woods Country Park
- ♥ Shrek Experience
- ♥ Southwater Country Park has a mini beach, dinosaurs, kids park etc and it's free
- ♥ Swanley Park
- ♥ Teapot Island
- ♥ Temple Manor (weekends only)
- ♥ Teston Park
- ♥ Tilgate Park (fantastic)
- ♥ Trosley Park - lots of shade
- ♥ Tyland Barn - Kent Wildlife Trust
- ♥ Union Windmill Cranbrook
- ♥ Upnor Castle
- ♥ Walmer Paddling Pool
- ♥ Whipnade Zoo
- ♥ Wildwood
- ♥ Wingham
- ♥ Woburn Safari Park
- ♥ Woodland Trust, Bearsted