



Sunrise



Issue 55 - Harvest 2026

I can't believe the summer is nearly over although I can't say I'm sorry to see the end of the really, really hot weather. It was rather too much for me. I do hope you all had a great summer holiday and enjoyed some time away with family and friends.

With autumn coming we can look forward to cooler weather, leaves falling from the trees and festivals such as harvest, bonfire night and Remembrance Sunday. I love this time of year, crunching through leaves and getting cosy at home.

Inside Sunrise this time there is an article and activity for Harvest. There are photos from Family Weekend, Summer Camp 1 and from the NCYA Creative Session. I hope you enjoy these. There is a quiz that I used in my service on the Creative Day. Hope you can get all the answers without having to check in the Bible.

Don't forget to contact me if you have anything to include in the next magazine or if you have any ideas to improve it.

A plentiful Harvest

² He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

An old farmer sat on the steps of his small shack chewing on a piece of straw. He was approached by a passing stranger who was looking for a cool drink of water. Wishing to start a conversation with the farmer, the stranger asked, "How is your cotton crop coming this year?"

"I ain't got none", replied the farmer.

"Didn't you plant any?" asked the stranger.

"Nope," said the farmer, "I was afraid the boll weevils would get it."

"Well," asked the stranger, "how is your corn?"

"Didn't plant any corn either," replied the man, "I was afraid there wasn't going to be any rain."

"If you didn't plant any cotton or corn, what did you plant?" asked the man.

"Nothing," said the farmer. "I just played it safe!"

Well, I guess if you don't plant anything, it makes the harvest a lot easier, doesn't it?

In our Bible reading today, Jesus sent out people to bring in the harvest. The harvest Jesus was talking about was not cotton, fruit or vegetables. What he was calling the disciples to do was to bring people to know God.

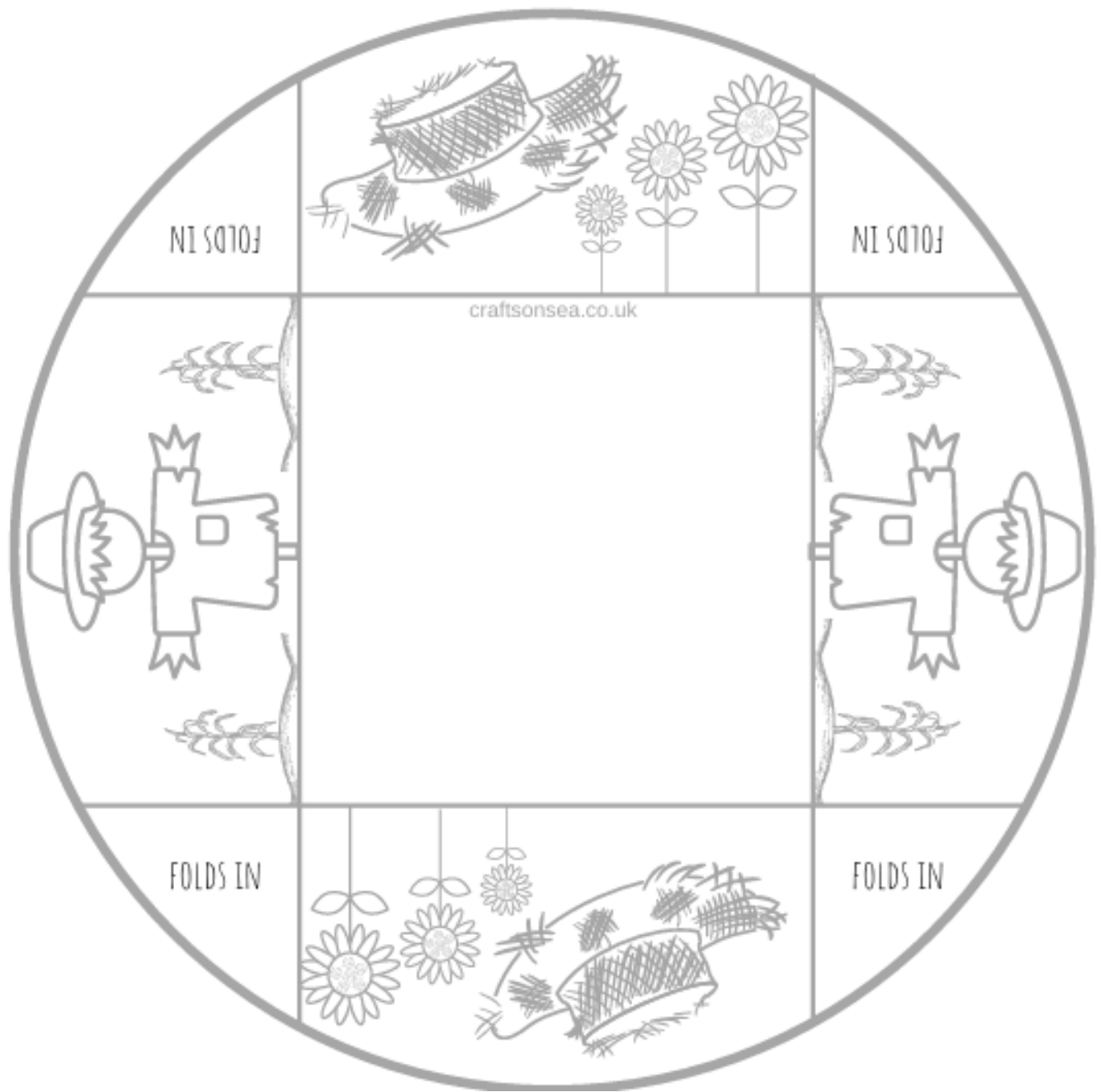
In the story the farmer wasn't exactly making much effort was he? He was being cautious in case trouble befell his crops. He didn't think it was worth the effort just in case it was in vain. Well growing crops is hard work, tilling the land, planting the seeds and ensuring they receive enough water to grow, protecting them from being damaged by birds and animals and then harvesting them at the right time before getting them off to the markets and shops. And farmers know that if they don't make the effort then they won't have the crops to sell, they won't have the food to feed their family,

So what Jesus is trying to tell us is that unless we work hard we won't have any success. He's not talking about in growing crops particularly but he is talking about in how we use the talents we have, learning about God, and sharing what we learn with others. It is no good learning things, and not using what we learn to help others too and that is how working hard can make us successful. But it can also make us very happy too. The more we share, the more we feel warm inside.

It is easy to think, oh well I would rather just not bother as the farmer in the story did, but that won't make us happy in the long term. If we just sit back and do nothing with what we learn we shan't be very happy or productive so we need to work hard for God and produce a great harvest, sharing God's love(or harvest) with others.



Harvest Basket



1. Either photocopy or cut out the basket and handle.
2. Decorate both.
3. Fold the sides of the box and fix with Sellotape or glue the corners.
4. Stick the handle on with Sellotape or glue.

NCYA

In July the NCYA held their Creative Session on the theme of 'Unpacking the New Church'. Gwendolen Rowe led the morning service and had a pass the parcel activity with clues to stories. The clues got easier each time and everyone had fun trying to guess the stories.

Gwendolen explained that as we learn more about each story we start to understand more about what it means for us thus we unpack its meaning. On the back page of this magazine are the clues. See if you can guess the stories without having to look them up.



Creative Session

After the service Carolyn Kennion presented the children/Young people with prizes for taking part in the Creative Exhibition. In the afternoon there were various creative activities for everyone to join in - making friendship bracelets, a treasure hunt, making chatterboxes and some sticking for the little ones.

It was a busy afternoon and everyone seemed to enjoy the time together. The New Church Youth Association would like to thank Bradford New Church for the use of their premises for this fun afternoon.



Friendship Bracelets



Sticker fun



Treasure Hunt



9-12 Summer Camp



This group went to Manchester Museum and to Inflata Nation. It looks like they had a lot of fun and certainly they made a great job of painting their faces!



Wellspring House

May Family Weekend

The NCYA were pleased to pay for Family Weekend's outing to Tamworth Castle. I would love to know what game Elliott and Richard were playing and who won! Also did the diners get served any food and was it edible considering the age of the castle!!



Pass the Parcel Quiz from NCYA Creative Day

There were 3 stories and 3 clues to each story with the first clue being the most difficult and the other two getting easier. See whether you can guess them on the first clue. If you can't guess the answers the Bible reference will tell you where to look to find out, but try and see if you can get them first!

STORY 1

Clue 1 - This man was the eighth son on Jesse

Clue 2 - In the story hr picked up five stones from a brook

Clue 3 - His opponent is a giant Philistine who he kills with one stone

1 Samuel 16 & 17

STORY 2

Clue 1 - The King at this time was King Darius

Clue 2 - He was caught sitting in an open window praying

Clue 3 - An angel protected him from some lions

Daniel 6

STORY 3

Clue 1 - In this story the people are celebrating

Clue 2 - The people threw their clothes on the road

Clue 3 - Jesus came along riding on a donkey

John 12 v12-19

For fun I have added an extra one that we didn't use so for those of you who were there this is an additional challenge:

STORY 4

Clue 1 - This story is a miracle

Clue 2 - There are lots of people up a mountain

Clue 3 - It involves 5 loaves and 2 fish

Matthew 14 v13-21