



# Link Up!

**‘When you have eaten your fill, be sure to  
praise the Lord your God for the good land  
He has given you.’  
Deuteronomy 8:10**

## **For the rest of September:**

On Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September we will be looking at Ephesians 5: 15- 21 – ‘The Spirit Influences’.

And on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September we will be looking at Galatians 5: 13 – 26 – ‘The Spirit Transforms’.

On Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September there will be a Church Members’ Meeting after the morning service. Church Members please bring your lunch with you, and we will provide drinks as usual. The agenda will be sent to members nearer the time.

## **Other Notices:**

Don’t forget that we are now recording the Sunday sermons and putting these onto our website. So, if you are missing from church on a Sunday you can catch up online during the week. The web address is [www.longfleetbaptistchurch.co.uk](http://www.longfleetbaptistchurch.co.uk).

Also, you can go to our YouTube channel to listen to a series of podcasts where Ken discusses one or two of the bible study questions that the Monday and Wednesday Bible Studies look at with some of the folk who attend these groups. You can hear these by going to <https://www.youtube.com/@longfleetbaptistchurch6537>

Some of you may know that I am involved with the charity Orfund which supports the Molima Children’s Home in Dedza, Malawi. I became a sponsor when we moved down in 2005 and then eight years ago, I became a Trustee.

The Home cares for up to thirty children, ages ranging from two to twenty-two years.

Seven years ago, I was fortunate enough to visit Molima, where I met Wezi, who runs the Home and also the children. The visit had a lasting impact on me. Most of the children have been admitted through their Village Chiefs or through Social Welfare – usually under very traumatic circumstances. It was therefore a joy to see the family atmosphere which exists between them and also their bubbly personalities shining through. They loved to sing and dance for us and each day, we arrived to find a ‘Look-out’ at the gate who would rush off the minute they saw us in great excitement to tell the others. I did feel the pressure of hoping I’d live up to expectation. Fortunately, they were delighted with the smallest of activities and games we had to offer and there was always football or netball on the field opposite to resort too.

### Looking forward to October:

On **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October**, Ken is away preaching at St George's C of E in Oakdale. We are holding one of our popular 'Songs of Praise' services. This might be a good service to invite a friend to join us at. Janet Matterface will be leading this, and the service will include our communion service.

On **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October** we will be celebrating our Harvest Thanksgiving. We will be collecting food items for Poole Foodbank and also taking an offering for the work of Operation Agri towards their 2025 appeal 'Trees, Bees and Seeds'. Envelopes will be available nearer the time and don't forget that, if you have a Gift Aid number with the Church, you can Gift Aid your donations to Operation Agri as well.

After the service we will have our Harvest Lunch and a Social Time. The list to sign up for your Ploughman's Lunch choice of either Cheese or Gammon (or some of both) is on the notice board in the entrance. We are asking for a donation towards the cost of the food, if you are able to afford this. £5 per head is a suggested amount.



Molima has had an extensive face-lift and refurbishments over the past couple of years and their agricultural programme has expanded massively. Wezi rents fields locally and in the capital – Lilongwe where they plant mainly maize. This is in addition to their land around the Home. As a result, they are more or less self-sufficient for their food.

The verse I have chosen sums up Wezi's work and her example to the children at Molima. She is very thankful to God for their harvests, whether it is firewood or maize or sweet potatoes. She regularly sends me pictures of their thanksgiving services, held at Molima, praising God for the good land He has provided.

It is my prayer that Orfund's provision will be in a position to continue for many more years. I am also very excited to be able to tell you that I am in the process of arranging to go back out to Molima next May 2026. I ask for your prayers in the preparation and logistics of this and I will certainly keep you informed along the way.

*Carri Hall*