

# Newsletter

No. 79—St John's 2025

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## LETTER FROM THE LENKER

We are in the midst of our summer of priests' moves. Michaël Merle was introduced to the congregation in London on Palm Sunday. A few weeks later, Nigel Lumsden was thanked and bid farewell; he is now standing in for Sabine Haus in Devon while she takes an extended summer break.

Jean-Marie Falcone and Carmel Iveson will be providing continuity in Stroud until Willem Boonstoppel and Lucienne van Bergenhenegouwen are introduced on Michaelmas Sunday. Meanwhile, Nigel will begin in Aberdeen at the start of August.

The Council of Management of The Christian Community Trustees—the charity that owns the buildings across the UK, apart from those in London—will be meeting in Forest Row at the end of June and beginning of July. They will also meet with the congregation there on 30th June. These encounters offer an opportunity for the Council to listen to the questions and concerns of members,

and to answer any queries about the work of the charity. We intend to offer such meetings regularly as the Council moves around the congregations.

I plan to write more about the work of the charity and present a financial report in the autumn *Newsletter*.

We are currently looking for a volunteer to help with updating our website in order to further the flow of information between congregations. Basic WordPress skills are essential. Until this is in place, I recommend subscribing to the mailing lists of our two largest congregations—Stroud and Forest Row—both of which send out regular updates of all their activities. You can request to be added to their lists via:

- Stroud:  
*stroudchristiancommunity@gmail.com*
- Forest Row:  
*tccinfr@gmail.com*

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Correspondence to: [newsletter@perspectives-magazine.co.uk](mailto:newsletter@perspectives-magazine.co.uk)

I am always aware of those members who live further away from one of our centres, or who are otherwise hindered from attending. With this in mind, *Perspectives* began a Substack—a kind of online newsletter—through which we send out a weekly contemplation on the gospel readings and festivals. Most of these are also recorded for those who have difficulty reading. Subscription is free. Unfortunately, we cannot offer a printed version. However, I have noticed that in the congregations, an informal befriending system seems to be in operation, through which members without access to email and internet find a friend who prints the relevant information out for them. If

you are aware of someone who might benefit from this, please ask them whether you could help!

We are also planning an online seminar this summer on the theme: *Repairing What Was Broken*. The New Testament contains many images of salvation, which have lived in Christian imagination over the centuries. We will explore some of these, with Rudolf Steiner's lecture *The Etherisation of the Blood* as background reading.

If you'd like to receive the weekly contemplations or hear more about the seminar, you can view recent posts and sign up here:

<https://tinyurl.com/persp-blog>

Tom Ravetz

## Harness the planetary forces

Tom Ravetz

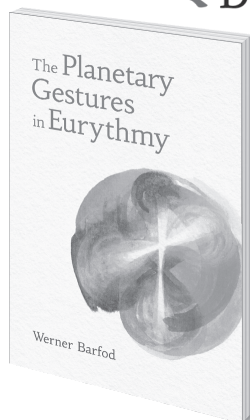


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