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Weekly Letter – 30th July 2023

Matthew 13.44-52

I don't know if you have watched the series The 'Detectorists'. It is a rather old fashioned and gentle comedy about two men searching for treasure. These two characters, Andy and Lance, at first seem a little obsessed and odd, but you soon realize they are not. Rather they are always optimistic about finding treasure.

They dream about discovering treasure, and continually talk about a bounty that will change everything for them. In a rather entertaining way these two middle aged chaps are like the farmer and the merchant, in the two parables that you have just read. They sacrifice a great deal of normal life to discover what they see as treasure of incomparable value.

For Andy and Lance, actively looking for treasure is the only worthwhile, meaningful and authentic pursuit in their lives. They are utterly spellbound and compelled by what could be, and they both ignite each other's passion for the ultimate find!

So, if you feel a little lukewarm, or have lost a little energy in believing that there is treasure, one way of re-energising yourself is to quite simply read the gospels, with an 'open heart'. For this treasure trove is there for you to keep on discovering 'the Source of All Truth'. Jesus calls this the 'Kingdom of Heaven', an utterly refreshing and unique treasure. For here in the gospels is the true meaning of your existence. Bon courage, and I hope like the Detectorists, you will be inspired to search with an open heart, in your search for 'knowledge of the heart'.

Stephen

Sunday Morning Worship in Christ Well, and on Zoom at 10.30 am will be led by Rev Linda Woollacott. We will celebrate Communion.

Cycle of Prayer in the Swansea Region – Tabernacle, Mumbles.

Prayers for every household – we will pray for Cecil Street nos, 65-99.

A reminder that if you are able to help with the weekly delivery of the request for prayer letters as we continue to pray for the homes in Manselton during our Sunday Morning Service.

Tea and Chat in Christ Well – Tuesday, 1st August, 2pm-4pm – Programme Planning and ice cream sundaes

The Spirit (Lectionary Readings: Genesis 29.15-28 and Psalm 105.1-11,.45b or Psalm 119.129-136: Romans 8.26-39: Matt.13.31-33,44-52)

God of creation, present through all of life changes,
we eagerly await your return, when we will be set free by the spirit
to claim our place as your children.

Search us, dear God and look deep within our hearts
to find the place we have made for you.

In our weakness, may we find strength and have the courage
to listen to your speaking to us.

God who calls us for service,
when we pray the words sometimes fail us
and at times they don't come out right.

Forgive us when we fail to pray for all the world
and just pray for ourselves.

Send your Holy Spirit to intercede on our behalf,
when the words fail us, remind us that we are
called to work for your purpose.

Send us out to proclaim your love and mercy.

We pray this in the name of Jesus.

Anonymous (URC Prayer Handbook 2023)

