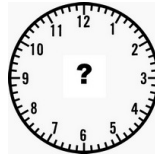


STEWARDSHIP

A time for...

New Year's Day fell on a Sunday this year. In our church service on 1st January we read that familiar passage from Ecclesiastes chapter 3:

*“He [i.e, God] sets the time for birth and the time for death,
the time for planting and the time for pulling up...”*
and so the passage continues.



In 2017 our Stewardship theme is **Time**, and so it seems appropriate as we start the year to ask ourselves what God is saying to us about the time we have, both as a church and also as individuals.

Is it time to plant, i.e. start doing something new, or perhaps something we've got out of the habit of doing; or maybe it is time to weed out those bad habits or perhaps pull out of those things we do because "we've always done it this way"? What new ideas can we suggest or initiate; or what has run its course and should now be set aside?

Time, according to the saying, does not stand still and neither does our life as a church. God's Holy Spirit is ever active, bringing comfort when needed and challenge where necessary. So, perhaps, what we need to do first in this 'Stewardship of Time' year is spend time with God in prayer and reflection, listening to what God has to say to us and then asking God what he wants from us. That we can do at any moment of the day, whoever we are.

So let's launch our Stewardship year by making time for God.
Everything else will follow on from that.

