

## STEWARDSHIP

### A time for...

Continuing our look at the Stewardship of Time, which is our theme for 2017, in Ecclesiastes chapter 3 we read:

*“He [i.e, God] sets the time for sorrow and the time for joy,  
the time for mourning and the time for dancing,  
the time for making love and the time for not making love,  
the time for kissing and the time for not kissing.*”



Now, already you might be asking yourself, “What on earth has that got to do with Stewardship? It’s not what we were expecting to read in our Church Magazine!”

In the last edition of the newsletter we looked at making time for God; in this second article, let’s think about making time for each other, making time for those we love – and perhaps also for those we find it difficult to love. If our faith is about anything, it’s about **relationships**.

Jesus spoke often about his relationship to the Father – he often went away by himself to pray, away from the hustle and bustle of life, time to spend alone with the One he loved the most. And to his disciples he said: *“I’m no longer calling you servants because servants don’t understand what their master is thinking and planning. No, I’ve named you friends because I’ve let you in on everything I’ve heard from the Father.”* (John 15:15 The Message)

So let us value our friendships and our families – including this family we call the church – and develop our relationships with each other, by making time for one another, by giving thanks for one another, by being conscious of other’s needs and responding to them in a way that shows we care – whether by mourning with them or celebrating with them.

*“As I have loved you,”* Jesus said, *“so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”*

Surely we can all make time for that?