

This

Prayer Trail

was laid out around the Parish Church during our

HERITAGE OPEN WEEKEND

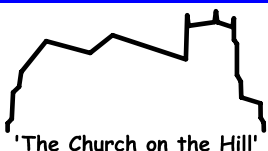
which took place over the weekend of
Friday 10th 2010 to Sunday 12th Sept 2010



The Trail offers an opportunity to take time out to reflect and meditate on life.

You could follow the trail alone or share with a friend, spend ten minutes or an hour, and we hope it will give you an introduction to the importance of prayer in daily life.

Turn the page, and follow the trail...



The Church of England in Mottram Parish, serving the communities of Mottram, Broadbottom and Hattersley East - together
"seeking to know Christ and to make Christ known"

We are grateful to Ange and Janet at The Cottage, Rivendell, for the idea.
www.rivendellbreaks.iowners.net

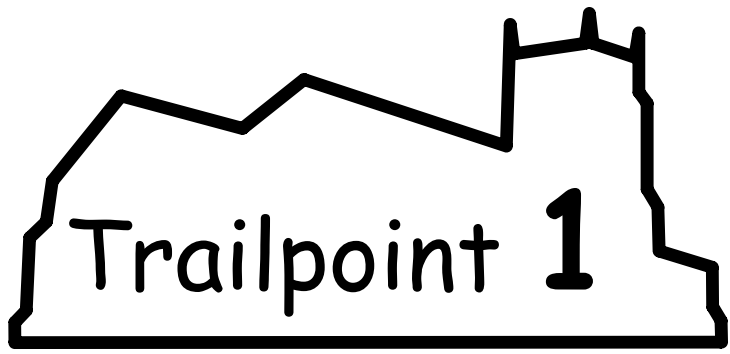


Bible: Psalm 42 verses 1, 2, 5

As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God.

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?

Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Saviour and my God.



Prayer Trail

You and God

'Trust in God: lean on your God!'

Thoughts:

Are you aware of God in your life?

If not, then reach out to Him now.

Where and when did you first become aware of Him?

How is it between you now?

Do you need to get back in touch?

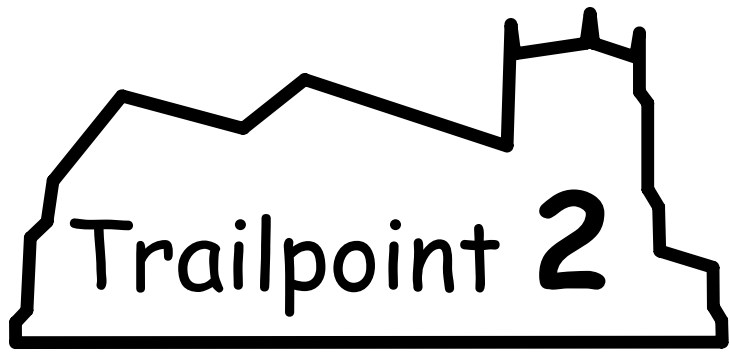
How will you do that? Is there anyone who can help?



Bible: Isaiah 35 verses 3-4

Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees
that give way;

Say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do
not fear; your God will come."



Prayer Trail

That Situation

'Courage! Take heart! God is here...'

Thoughts:

Bring a person or situation to mind.

God knows all about it, but longs for you to share your concerns with Him.

You might ask for resolution.

You might ask for understanding.

You might ask for forgiveness.

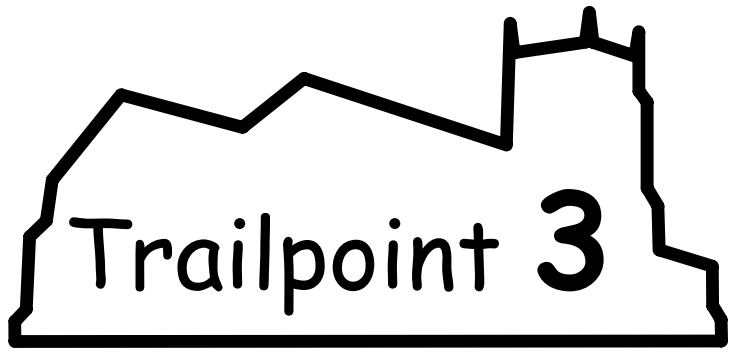
You might just ask Him to listen.



Bible: Matthew 7 verses 8-11

For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? If you, then ... know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!



Prayer Trail

Receive from Him

'What has the Lord to give to you?'

Thoughts:

What do you really want?

What do you really need?

Is there a difference?

Will you trust your heavenly Father to decide?

Why not ask Him now.

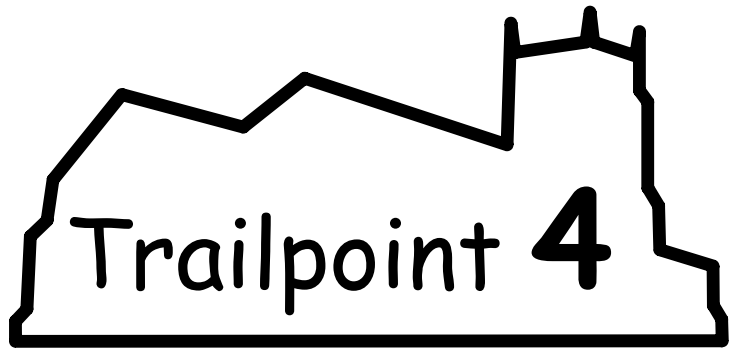


Bible: Matthew 5 verses 1-4

His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted."



Prayer Trail

Lost?

'Embraced by the one most dear to you'

Thoughts:

What or whom have you lost, which you feel deeply?

A dear friend or relative?

A husband or wife? A child?

A job, a purpose in life? A treasured possession?

Are you ready for God to fill that empty space?

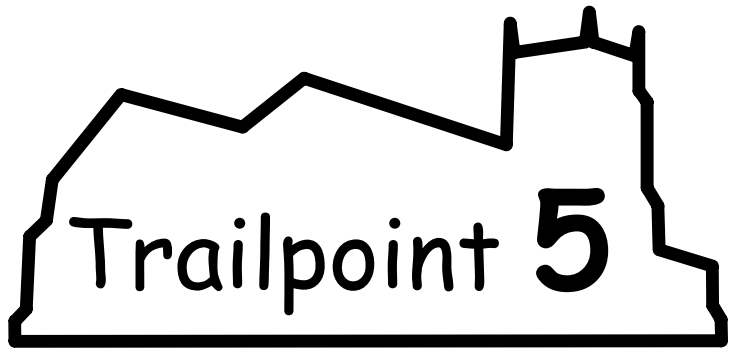


Bible: Psalm 113 verses 1-3

Praise the Lord. Praise, O servants of the Lord,
praise the name of the Lord.

Let the name of the Lord be praised, both now
and for evermore.

From the rising of the sun to the place where it
sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised.



Prayer Trail

Thanks and Praise

'Keep lifting all your praises to God'

Thoughts:

Look out of the window.

What is there in the whole universe that God has not made?

Look around the church.

Who gave men and women the artistic and technical skills to make this church?

To whose glory was it all built?

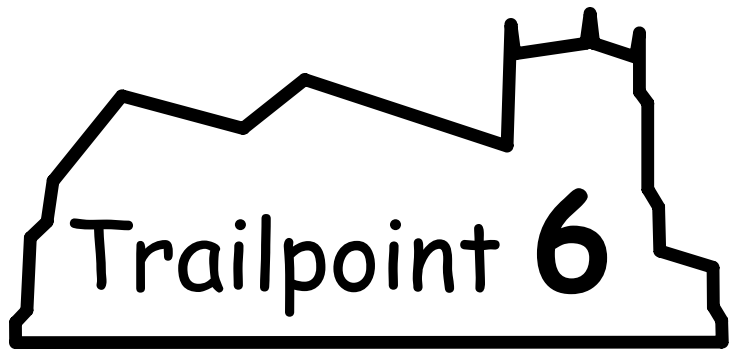
Give thanks and praise to God, the creator.



Bible: Hebrews 13 verses 1-2

Keep on loving each other as brothers.

Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it.



Prayer Trail

At the table

'Held together by love'

Thoughts:

Who is at your table?

Who would you like to draw to it?

Is there someone you would like to welcome into your life or your circle of friends?

Or into the family of the church?

Who might appreciate an open heart, an offer of hospitality, a listening ear?

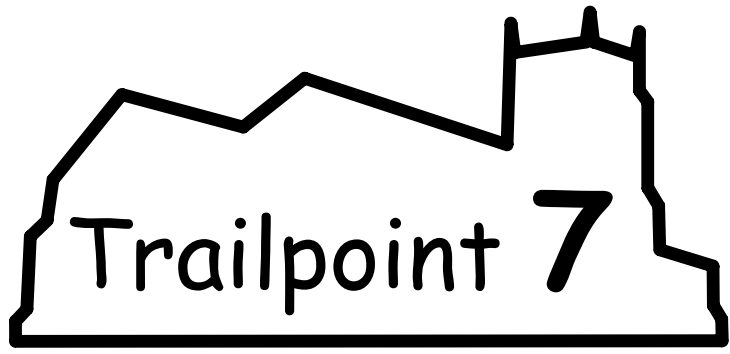


Bible: Psalm 119 verses 81, 82, 88

My soul faints with longing for your salvation, but
I have put my hope in your word.

My eyes fail, looking for your promise; I say,
"When will you comfort me?"

Preserve my life according to your love, and I will
obey the statutes of your mouth.



Prayer Trail

The darkest place

'In your great love, revive me'

Thoughts:

Present the hardest things in your life to God.

Ask Him to take the load from you.

Ask Him to enfold you in his arms and take away the pain.

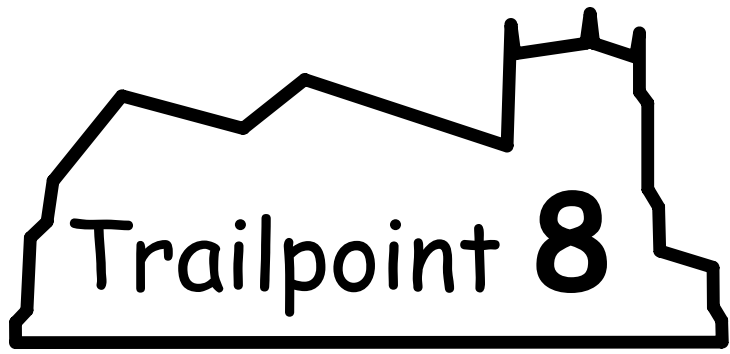
Ask for His love - promised to all who call on the name of Jesus, who suffered and died on the cross for you.



Bible: Proverbs 3 verses 5-8

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and shun evil. This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones.



Prayer Trail

Hopes for the future

'Don't try to figure everything out on your own'

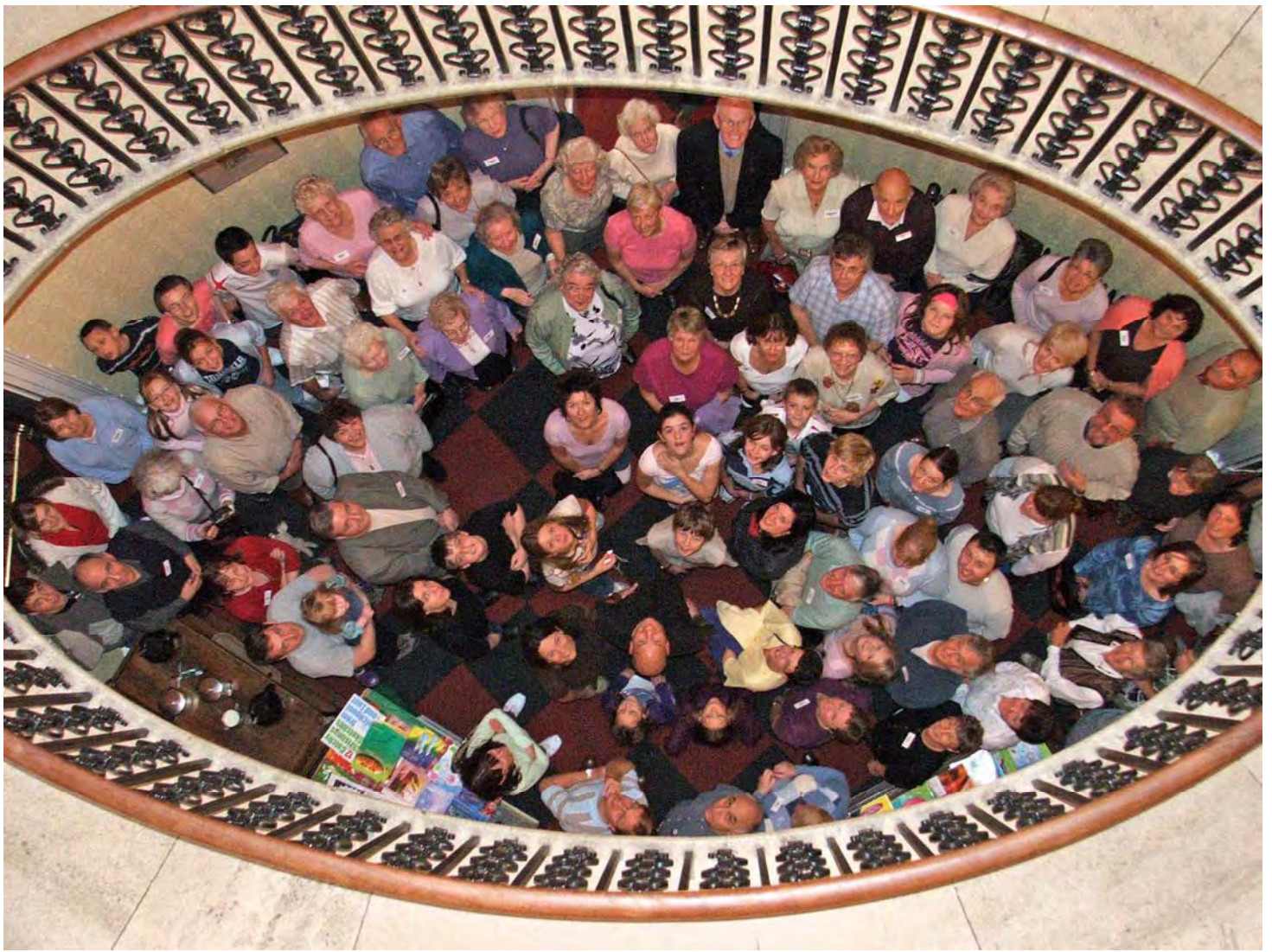
Thoughts:

Where do you see yourself in a year's time - five years - longer?

How will you get from where you are now, to where you want to be then?

How will you find the strength?

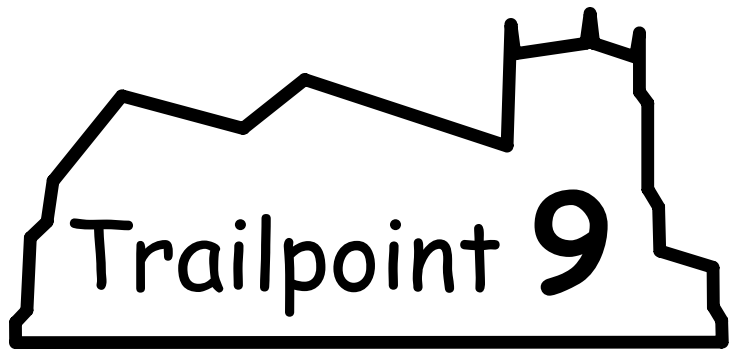
Are you ready to let God take charge?



Bible: 1 Timothy 2 verses 1-4

I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone — for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.



Prayer Trail

The Prayer Tree

'Pray every way you know, for everyone you know'

Thoughts:

Who needs your prayers?

Those close to you? People you don't know?

People at home, people in other countries?

The poor, the sick, the hungry?

Those in authority, or in a position to help?

If you would like to write down your prayer and hang it on the Prayer Tree, you can be sure that there will be someone praying with you.