



**St. Paul's, Covingham  
St. Timothy's, Liden  
[www.dorcanchurch.org.uk](http://www.dorcanchurch.org.uk)**

*Transforming lives and communities  
Knowing Jesus and making Him known*

# LIGHT DARK

**Sunday 7th February 2021  
Second Sunday before Lent**

**Online 10.30am.** Morning Worship. Rev. Andrew Wigley  
The service will be posted as a video on the Facebook page  
"Dorcan Church Notice Board" which you can find at:  
<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulssttimothyswindon/>

**Online 11.30am** After service coffee on Zoom  
Link will be posted on the closed Facebook page

**Welcome to the Dorcan Church.  
If you are new, we would love to get to know you better.  
Please speak to the Minister or to one of the Stewards.**

**Sunday 14th February 2021**  
**Sunday next before Lent**

**Online**

10.30am.

Morning Worship.

Revd Stuart Fisher

**Web address for service posted on Sunday 31st January:**

<https://www.facebook.com/199619460387075/videos/170118264572131>

**DATES FOR THE DIARY**

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup>**

7:30pm Deanery Synod

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>**

7pm Ministry team

**Thursday Morning Private prayer – on pause:** We share that we are pausing Thursday morning private prayer for the time being. If you wish to speak with a member of the clergy, please do not hesitate to get in contact – we love speaking with you!

## **New Methodist Minister**

We are pleased to be able to share with you that we have received notification of a 'match' for a new Methodist Minister to the Circuit for next September – primarily with pastoral responsibility for Stratton and Dorcan. It is good news that the process has finally been completed, and we can now look to the future as a church and as a circuit. There is still a formal ratification process to be completed, but basically the decision is made.

The Rev Stephen Roe and his wife Angela are coming from North Wales to join us and he will continue his ministry here in the Swindon area and specifically within our communities. In a change to our current arrangements, Stephen is a Deacon in the Methodist Church, which is a fully ordained position of equal standing to a Presbyterian, but has a distinct ministry with a focus on mission. The role is also different to that of an Anglican Deacon. Most noticeably for us, this will mean that he will not preside over Holy Communion, though he is an experienced preacher and worship leader.

We are aware that all ministers (Presbyter or Deacon, and from any parent denomination) bring different skills, gifts and focus to the location they are stationed to, and we look forward to what Stephen will bring to share with us as he proclaims the gospel, and together we explore new opportunities to build God's house here in Dorcan and more widely in the East Swindon community.

Thank you for your prayers and support over this period as we worked through the stationing process, and we ask that you pray for Stephen and Angela as they prepare to move.

Nathalie Marshall (ECC, and Circuit Rep)

John Davidson (ECC, Church Steward, and Circuit Rep)

Diane Killick (Previous Circuit rep and Circuit Invitation committee member)

## **“Transforming Church. Together”**

### **Our chance to share what God is saying to us about the future of his church**

This week, “Transforming Church. Together” was launched and we share the following from the diocese:

“Transforming Church. Together”. is all about the Church of England in our region shaping a new vision and set of priorities for the coming years. We want to understand what we do well, what we can change for the better and then create a positive way forward together. This year-long process is called Transforming Church. Together.

We are beginning with conversations – with communities, congregations, clergy, church leaders, and staff. Between February and April 2021 we will start talking and listening with lots of different people, both within and outside the church.

We will listen carefully to understand what each other think and feel about God and the Church of England, but also about our communities, society and the world.”

We are all invited to be a part of this! We will share more of how we might engage locally in the next couple of weeks, but in the meantime do look on the Diocese Website where you’ll find more information, FAQs and a short video.

<https://www.bristol.anglican.org/transformingchurch/>

This is our chance to share what we feel God is saying to us about the future of God’s church and how “be” and “do” church for Him. Please do pray for Transforming Church, and that we will be faithful to God and where he may be leading us.

## Living in Love and Faith

In November 2020 the Church of England published a book *“Living in Love and Faith”* (LLF) and associated resources, beginning a process of discernment and decision-making on questions of identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage. These resources have been designed to help all God’s people come together to learn about and discuss matters of human identity and sexuality, an arena which, in the Church of England, we have found very difficult for a number of years. Our difficulties have often caused hurt and puzzlement both inside and outside the Church and been a stumbling block to our collective witness.

As a diocese we will be engaging with LLF during 2021 and we are encouraged to do the same across our worshipping community and wider into our contexts. With the priority on *“Transforming Church”* in the earlier part of 2021, the focus on LLF will be from May onwards when we are invited to a conference which will provide a launch point into listening and exploring together and will include guidance on how parishes and other settings can make use of available resources and engage widely.

In the meantime, we can of course start accessing and exploring the material if we wish. You will find a host of resources at

<https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/living-love-and-faith/living-love-and-faith-learning-hub>

For now, we are asked to put one of the following dates in our diary for the half-day conference which will launch our focus in LLF across the diocese. The material will be repeated on both days. Either date can be booked at

<https://bristoldiocese.eventbrite.co.uk>

- Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> May from 9:30am-1:30pm.
- Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May from 9:30am-1:30pm.

This is not an easy topic to explore and it is important that those with different views, perspectives and experience can express them alongside others who may hold very different positions. Please pray that in these coming months and years, our listening and learning together might, in the Bishop of Coventry’s words, “help us to discern together the work of the Holy Spirit in our common life and lead us into the future that God has for us as we seek together to serve Christ fully and faithfully.”

*Trudie*



Thank you to all at Dorcan for supporting the 2020 Christmas Toy Appeal and we would like to update you on the final outcome:

- 5,823 toys were donated – at least triple the number from 2019 at last count (not including what was bought using funds from the giving page and the thousands of stocking fillers!).
- £10,900 was donated through our giving page which we were able to put towards buying presents for specific age categories where fewer donations were received.
- 700 children, from 265 families, received presents (again, double that of 2019).
- Each child was given a complete gift sack, including 4 main presents, a book, soft toy and 3 stocking fillers.
- 1 in 2 families also received a food hamper, prepared by Pattern Church, and delivered as part of the Toy Appeal. This was made possible thanks to donations from Tesco's, Swindon Night Shelter and Swindon Food Collective.
- And, even after all of this, we've still had toys leftover to be able to support schools and local organisations during this new lockdown.

After such a difficult year, it was a privilege to be able to work together to bring a little hope and happiness to local families living in desperate need. We were truly overwhelmed by the response so thank you again.

We'll be announcing our plans for the 2021 Toy Appeal later this year via our Facebook page, [Swindontoyappeal](#), so please follow us if you'd like to get involved. We do hope that we can partner together again. In the meantime,

Take care, stay safe and wishing you all the best for 2021.

**Dawn Prosser | Toy Appeal Coordinator**  
**Emma Pickering | Toy Appeal Administrator**

## The Children's Society Christmas Donation.

During the Christmas period Tony sent a donation to the Children's Society for £100 (in lieu of a collection). The following is a copy of part of their acknowledgement letter.

*"Thank you so much for helping in our mission to change the lives of vulnerable children by donating £100.00 in support of our work. . Your kindness and generosity will make a significant difference to our work and I want you to know how grateful we are for your dedication and support."*

### From the Treasurer

As promised, below are the major amounts from the Church's January accounts. Although we have little income from hall lettings we have been able to obtain some grants to help offset this. The accounts also benefit from receiving the Gift Aid Tax from the 2020 4<sup>th</sup>. Quarter.

Income	
Giving	4,556.14
Tax recovered	2,908.07
Lettings	532.69
Grants	4,493.68
Other	296.00

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Total	12,786.58
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Expenditure	
Upkeep of services	628.91
Parish Share	4,250.00
Heat & Light	795.13
Maintenance	325.52
Other	3,936.13

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Total	9,935.69
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Tony Prichard (Treasurer)

All items for inclusion in the next notices should be sent to  
Anna Newman by Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February  
Tel: 695698 or email [anagram673@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:anagram673@hotmail.co.uk). Thank you.  
Please let me know if any others would like to receive notices by email.