



St. Paul's Covingham
St. Timothy's, Liden
www.dorcanchurch.org.uk

14th August, 2016

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



Matthew 17:20

Services Sunday 14th August 2016

St. Paul's

10.00am All Age Worship Rev'd Andrew Wigley

St. Tim's

10.30am Holy Communion Rev'd Trudie Wigley

This morning, Paul Taylor is at Coleview, supporting the wider Anglican deanery

**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.**

For your prayers:

- Unrest across the world, thinking of continuing violence in the Middle East and Tourist explosions in Thailand
- The athletes and for a “good” competition at the Rio 2016 Olympics (5-21 Aug) & the Paralympics (7-18 Sep).
- Our community - for those who live and work here, and the continuing preparations for the community fund day to celebrate our 50th anniversary
- For ourselves – that we might grow in faith and trust
- Those in Need of God's Healing and peace
- The friends & family of James Collins (Jimmy) and all those who have recently died.

What’s on this week - Small groups and Cell Groups - please keep in touch with your leaders for dates and venues. If you would like to join one, please speak to one of the Ministers or Church Wardens.

Tuesday 16th August	9.30am - 1.00pm	St Paul’s Work morning in preparation for anniversary weekend
Thursday 18th August	9.30am	Holy Communion at St. Tim’s
Friday 19th August		FRIDAY CLUB cancelled today And also cancelled on the 16th September See separate notice.

St Pauls Work Morning Tuesday 16th August 9.30 - 1pm. Please come along if you are able to, lots of different jobs to help prepare the building for the **BIG** weekend. from gardening, to windows, hope you can make it. *Diane.*

SERVICES 21st August		
St. Paul’s		
10.00am	Holy Communion	Rev’d. Stuart Fisher
<i>(Welcome: Anna & Brian, Teas: Rosemary & Amy.)</i>		
St. Tim’s		
10.30am	Morning Worship	Colin Parsons

Focus on Prayer

The existing pattern of praying for others ie; the Prayer Chain and Lectern List have worked extremely well over the years, thanks to the enduring efforts of Pam and Margaret. However, we met to see if there was a more 'joined up' and effective way that we, as a congregation could be praying for the needs of others. As a result of this, several things have happened.

Prayer Chain

Margaret has now amalgamated the two existing prayer chains, and she is still the person to contact initially. Your confidentiality will be respected by the Pray-ers, who can now be notified by email, text or phone call. If you are considering becoming a Pray-er yourself, please speak to Margaret. (You don't need a theology degree)

Lectern List

This list has now been superseded by a lovely new Prayer Board made by our Administrator Jackie. For the time being, it is hanging on the left hand wall. You'll notice that there is also a space for prayers answered.

If you have a prayer concern for either yourself or someone else

- Write that concern on the appropriate card, with the name of the person to be prayed for, the name of the person posting the prayer, and the date.
- The card will remain on the board for 2 weeks only, but if you wish, you may renew it yourself after 2 weeks.
- Also, if you wish it, the name of the person can be included in the notices for 2 weeks, as a reminder for people to pray at home. Pam is the person to contact initially, but Margaret if Pam's away.

Prayer Basket

There will now be a basket placed on the table next to the entrance. This will be for any of the congregation to put in a particular request for prayer for the following week. Each congregation member will be encouraged on leaving the service, to take a prayer request and pray for that person during the coming week.

I hope this all makes sense to you. If you have any concerns at all, please speak to;

Pam W. 343155 - Margaret H. 532849 –

Trudie W. 326128 or Barbara W. 538695

Happy praying - *Barbara*

September - November Rota

My apologies for asking you to think about the autumn, but would be very grateful to know any dates you would not be available.

Many thanks for all that you do, it is greatly appreciated.

Diane

Important notice re Christmas shoeboxes:

After much thought, prayer and discussion, the Church Council and Ministry Team have agreed that this Christmas we would like to support "Link to Hope", a Christian organisation which delivers gift boxes to needy families and the elderly in Eastern Europe.

You will be aware that we have previously supported Samaritan's Purse, and our boxes last Christmas went to Eastern Europe. After much discussion in Ministry Team and in consultation with Christine Parsons our local organiser, Church Council has agreed this change. The background to this is in remarks made in the US by CEO Franklin Graham, head of Samaritan's Purse, regarding homosexuality, and which has received attention here in the UK. Whilst there is a wide spectrum of views on homosexuality amongst Christians, and some of us may support Mr Graham's position, it was the tone and the uncharitable and unloving nature of the remarks which caused concern, and which has been reported in the press and social media sites. We have also read the Statement of Faith of Samaritan's Purse and found it to be strongly conservative evangelical, and which we could not fully support given the spectrum of views amongst Christians.

Trudie and Andrew met with Simon Barrington, Executive Director of Samaritan's Purse UK, to express our concern. Mr Barrington explained further the nature of the work with Christmas boxes, and how there is a degree of separation with their evangelical Christian mission. However, whilst Ministry Team recognised the goodwill in distributing Christmas boxes, we were of common mind that we should seek another Christian organisation to distribute our gifts. We explored a number of new options and, together with ideas from Christine, chose "Link to Hope" which provides a similar service, whilst also offering to families and elderly. They are also supported by others in Swindon, e.g. through Restore, and have a local collection point. Church Council subsequently agreed to this recommendation.

Continued on next page -----

We recognise that we have been supporting Samaritan's Purse for many years, but hope you will understand why there is this change. We appreciate the support and dedication of Christine Parsons for the last 20 years with Samaritan's Purse and her willingness now, along with Paul Taylor, to act as coordinator for Link to Hope. Some individuals may however want to continue their support of Samaritan's Purse for their own personal reasons, but as a Church, we will only be collecting for Link to Hope.

If you have any concerns or queries, then please do speak to a member of Ministry Team. There is an opportunity to learn more about Link To Hope through their website <http://linktohope.co.uk> as well as their leaflet as you go out today – more have been ordered. In both our united services in August and September we will be showing a video of the work of Link to Hope and talking a bit more about their work, in preparation for "Shoebox Sunday" on 6th November 2016.

The Ministry Team and ECC

Time to find out more?

If you feel ready to learn more about your faith, you might enjoy an "Exploring Christianity" course. This is the course which Sue Morgans shared with us about last Sunday. It is an evening course made up of six ten-week modules, and details of the next Exploring Christianity are as follows:

Starting Thursday 22nd September 2016,
7.30 pm at Lydiard Millicent Primary School, SN5 3LR.

For more information and to register, contact Jayne Mathias at the Diocese (jayne.mathias@bristoldiocese.org) or ring the Ministry Development office on 0117 906 0100. And don't forget to also ask Sue about it!

FRIDAY CLUB

At our last meeting in July we agreed to have a break during the summer months and to meet again in the Autumn. However, in order to enable preparations to be made for the Church's 50th Anniversary Celebration, we have decided to cancel the following meeting on the 16th September as well.

Our next meeting will therefore be on **Friday 21st October** at St. Paul's from 2-4pm.
Anna (695698)

Calling all musicians and singers !!



Thanks to everyone who responded to my plea for singers and musicians over the last couple of weeks. It's now time to start looking at the music and having a play.

With that in mind, I've arranged for everyone to meet in the Church at St Paul's on a Wednesday night from 7:30pm. Please do come if you are able for what I hope will be a series of fun evenings. Don't worry if you can't make every week!

And please feel free to come along and join in on a Wednesday if you haven't spoken to me and volunteered yet - it would be great to see you!

Dave Jones davepedderjones@gmail.com

Saturday 17th September Community Day 2pm - 6pm

We are looking for volunteers to help man games, assist with refreshments, donate raffle prizes, and prepare for the event please see either Debbie or Diane

Am I called to be a Licensed Lay Minister? The Ministry Team would love to hear from you if you sense God may be prompting you to explore this particular vocation. The diocesan are also hosting an evening together to explore this ministry, so do go along and find out more!

Tuesday 15th November,
7.00-9.15pm.

Hillside House, BRISTOL

For further information, please feel free to contact Rev Helen Collins, advisor for Licensed Ministry on 0117 906 0100

As part of our **50th anniversary fun day** we will be providing cream teas and cake.

If you are able to make a cake(s) could you please sign the list on the table in the Church or contact Debbie (535939 - leave a message)

**Dorcan Church 50th Anniversary Celebrations
Saturday 17th / Sunday 18th September**

This note is to help keep you informed about what is being planned for our special anniversary weekend, so that you can also tell friends and neighbours about it. **More help is still required, so please contact Diane Killick** with any further offers and suggestions. Let's make this a great success, for church and communi-

Saturday 17th September, 2 – 6pm

COMMUNITY FUN DAY

Fairground Games, Tug-o-war Competition

Bouncy Castle / Slide, Quiz

Messy Church and Tiny Tots activities

Swindon YFC BIOS Bus

Tea, Coffee and refreshments

Including Cream Teas and Ice Creams

Hot Dogs and Chips (from 4pm)

Sunday 18th September, 10am

**UNITED SERVICE of THANKSGIVING
WITH HOLY COMMUNION**

**led by Revd Dr Lee Rayfield, Bishop of Swindon
and Revd Dr Jonathan Pye, Chair of Bristol District,
with invited guests of former ministers and local civic officers.**

**There will be celebratory cake and drinks for everyone
after the service, with lunch provided for our guests
by our children and young people at 1pm**

NB Services at St Paul's on 4th, 11th & 18th September will start at 10am.

Huge congratulations to Lucy on passing her degree -
BA - Swindon College.

Debbie

Building God's house: Following our away day last year, all our summaries and quarterly updates are now in an A5 folder in both churches, together with spares for you to take if you've missed one. Please do take a look and keep the picture of Building God's house alive as we continue to move forward. Our next update will be in the Autumn.

Ride and Stride for Churches: Saturday, 10th September 2016.

Even Bear Grylls is going to be participating in this national event!
Could you raise some much needed money for Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust (WHCT) by doing sponsored visits to local churches?

You can walk, cycle, ride a horse or use a mobility scooter – anything! – and you don't have to be as adventurous as Bear Grylls! Half the money you raise will come back to The Dorcan church, and the other half is used for grants for other church building.

We were the recipients of a £4k grant towards our heating from WHCT and this annual event funds this kind of valuable help and support.

More details will be available next week, but in the meantime put the date in your diary and join Bear and others across the country!

All items for inclusion in the next notices should be sent to
Anna Newman by Thursday 18th August
Tel 695698 or email anagram673@hotmail.co.uk

Please let me know if you would like to receive notices by e.mail.