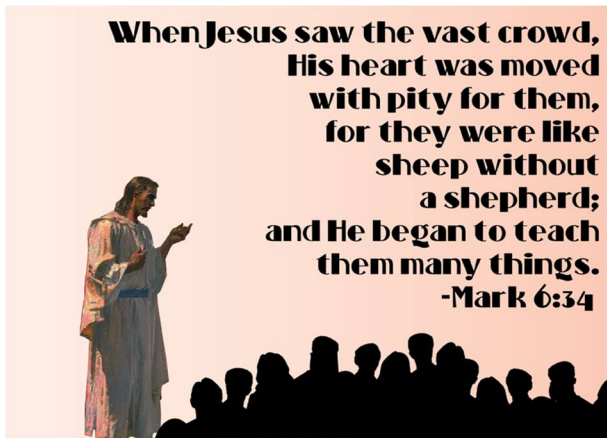




St. Paul's, Covingham
St. Timothy's, Liden
www.dorcanchurch.org.uk

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

18th July 2021 –Seventh Sunday after Trinity



St. Paul's	10.30am	Morning Worship	Mary Boitz
St. Timothy's	10.30am	Morning Worship	Paul Tayler

We will be live-streaming the service on the Facebook page
 "Dorcan Church Notice Board" which you can find at:
<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsstimothysswindon/>

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

Welcome to the Dorcan Church

Services - Sunday 25th July 2021

St. Paul's	10.00am	Holy Communion	Rev. Michael Johnson
St. Timothy's	No Service		

CHURCH NEWS

Dear Friends,

I am sorry to have to tell you that our dear friend and sister in Christ, Viv Craig has passed away. Viv died late in the evening, on Thursday, at peace at the Great Western Hospital.

As you are aware, Viv was a great asset to the community and this church, no more so than in her role as Senior Churchwarden at St Tim's for so many years and representing us throughout the deanery and circuit at other times.

Viv will be greatly missed. She now rests in the Peace of The Lord. We will let you know Viv's funeral arrangements in due course.

Stuart

Zoe & Harry

As you may have heard, last week, our cleaner Zoe has unexpectedly given birth quite prematurely, but I understand mother and baby (Harry) are doing well.

Many of you will have met Zoe around the church and know what a joyful person she is. She is an important part of the Dorcan family and so we are having a collection for Zoe and her family following this traumatic birth and if you feel able, you can also contribute either by putting cash in a labelled envelope marked (Zoe-Harry) and placing it in the collection basket on Sunday or by donating via the Dorcan church bank account using the same (Zoe-Harry) reference. The bank account details are; The Co-operative bank; Account The Dorcan Church: Sort code 08 92 99; Account number 65312775

Community Centre Development Manager (CCDM)

Cheryl Pottinger, our part time (CCDM), has submitted her resignation, to pursue opportunities in the other work that she does. Cheryl's employment with us will cease on the 30th July.

We will shortly be looking for a replacement for that role, but in the meantime we need to evaluate, how this position has evolved during this period, and therefore how we may correctly offer the position to any new candidate.

In the interim period, the need for people from this church family occasionally to offer help with 'locking' and 'unlocking' the church building, or with doing a round of cleaning, will become more important, If you are willing to help with either of these, please contact Pete Mulcock (pmulcock1@gmail.com) who will add your name to a list of volunteers for these tasks. We need to thank Cheryl, for her hard work, and cooperation in very difficult circumstances over the last 18 months, and we wish her well, in all that she does in the future.

Please prayerfully consider how you may help, and please pray for the ECC and its committees as we try to address this situation.

Revd Stuart Fisher
John Davidson

Report from The North Wiltshire Circuit and Methodist District

From the Circuit meeting in June:

Wroughton Methodist Church has closed

A new Circuit Invitation Committee has been appointed to replace Mark Barratt who retires next summer. This will leave a Presbyterian deficit in Swindon making this a priority appointment.

Drove Rd and Ermin St. Manses to be sold plus 2 in Chippenham and 2 new manses to be bought.

Several churches in the circuit are going through Eco Church certification, Bath Road having completed Silver.

From National Methodist Conference earlier this month

Several important resolutions were passed by conference. The following are quotes from the Methodist Church Website.

Following prayerful consideration by the whole Church, the Methodist Conference has voted to confirm provisional resolutions on the principles or qualities of good relating, understanding of cohabitation and same sex marriages conducted on Methodist premises or by Methodist office-holders.

On conversion therapy; The Methodist Conference has decided that no conversion therapy can take place in its name and has called on the UK government to ban the practice without delay.

On Cohabitation; The Church recognises that the love of God is present within the love of human beings who are drawn to each other, and who enter freely into some form of life-enhancing committed relationship with each other, whether that be through informal cohabitation or a more formal commitment entered into publicly. As a Church we wish to celebrate that the love of God is present in these circumstances, even if that grace is not responded to or even discerned by the people concerned. The Church has an important calling, therefore, to point to the presence of God's love within such relationships, and to encourage people to respond to it in the renewing and deepening (by whatever means) of their commitment.

On Same Sex Marriage; The Conference consents in principle to the marriage of same-sex couples on Methodist premises throughout the Connexion and by Methodist ministers, probationers or members in so far as the law of the relevant jurisdiction permits or requires and subject to compliance with such further requirements, if any, as that law imposes.

There is no immediate change for Dorcan, as we are part of a shared building arrangement and therefore agreement would have to be sought from the ECC in consultation with Bristol Diocese before any application could be made to register the Dorcan Church for same sex marriages. Provision will be made in the revised Standing Orders for Methodist ministers and Churches who do not feel able in good conscience to support same sex marriages.

These are sensitive decisions, and we recognise as an LEP that our Anglican partners are discussing the same issues through "Living in Love and Faith".

We pray both for this process and for the Methodist church as they work through the practicalities of the decisions that have been made. We recognise that this decision will be a source of great joy for many, but also pray for those who feel aggrieved and uncomfortable with these decisions, that they may know the love of their fellow Christians, and the grace of Christ.

Nathalie Marshall
Steward and Circuit representative for the Dorcan Church.

Help needed.

The Archdeacons team will be visiting our church, to carry out the Triennial inspection on Aug 10th.

We would like to do some cleaning and tidying around St Pauls building and garden on Saturday July 31st between 9.00am and 1.00 pm.

If you are able to help with cleaning, tidying and weeding it would be greatly appreciated.

email or text
John Davidson john.davidson945@gmail.com
07516348860

All items for inclusion in the next notices should be sent to
Anna Newman by Wednesday 21st July
Tel: 695698 or email anagram673@hotmail.co.uk. Thank you.
Please let me know if any others would like to receive notices by email.