



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

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



“You are mine and I am yours. So be it.”
 Wesley Covenant Prayer

**Services - 20th January - 3rd Sunday of Epiphany
 Covenant Sunday - Launch of Holy Habits**

St. Paul's

10.30am Holy Communion Rev'ds Andrew Wigley
 And Rob Smith

Welcome: *Anna & Brian*, Teas: *Cathy's Group*,
 Sunday Club: *Mary./Deb./Clare/Niki*, Crèche: *Jan & Anna*

4.00pm Messy Church The Team !

St. Tim's

10.30am Holy Communion Rev'd Stuart Fisher

**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.**

Today we are holding our Annual Covenant Service at both centres.

This is an annual service from the richness of the Methodist tradition in which we celebrate all that God has done for us, and affirm that we give our lives and choices to God.

The traditional Covenant prayer is a focus in the service and is printed below. It makes it very clear that this affirmation is a serious one which embraces the whole of our life, in all its parts. It is quite tough to say, and to really mean it, especially in our culture where we tend to prize our ability to make decisions and choose our own path in life. It can feel very hard to give that up. But this prayer is like a love poem to God. It is about surrendering to God in love and joy.

As you gather today you are invited to reflect on the words of the Covenant prayer. Pray to God about those areas that particularly challenge you and be honest with Him about what you find difficult. In the service today we will have the opportunity to stand together and re-affirm that we give our lives and service to God, both personally and as a church. May each of us sense God's promptings and peace as we make this prayer.

A Covenant with God

I am no longer my own but yours.
Put me to what you will,
rank me with whom you will;
put me to doing,
put me to suffering;
let me be employed for you,
or laid aside for you,
exalted for you,
or brought low for you;
let me be full,
let me be empty,
let me have all things,
let me have nothing:
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things
to your pleasure and disposal.
And now, glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
you are mine and I am yours. So be it.
And the covenant now made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven.
Amen.

What's on - next week -		
Tuesday 22nd January	10.00am 1.00pm 7.30pm	Morning prayers at St. Tim's Christian Union, Dorcan Academy Men's Fellowship at Ecklington, Eldene
Wednesday 23rd January	8.45am 9.00am 1.30pm 6-7.30pm 7.30pm	Tea & Toast - St. Tim's Tiny Tots starts at St. Paul's Tiny Tots at St. Tim's "Blaze", club for 7-11's, , St Paul's Centre ECC at St. Tim's
Thursday 24th January	9.30am 7.00pm 7.00-8pm 8.00-9pm	Holy Communion at St. Tim's Baptism preparation Merlin Way *new* Walking footie for over 65's, Dorcan Leisure Footie at Dorcan Leisure Centre, followed by the Messenger

Services - 27th January 2019 4th Sunday of Epiphany		
St. Paul's		
8.45am	Holy Communion	Revd Trudie Wigley & Paul Tayler
10.30am	Morning Worship	Rev'd Trudie Wigley
Welcome: <i>Pam & Friend</i> , Teas: <i>Jean & Joan</i> , Sunday Club: <i>Nathalie & Helen</i> , Crèche: <i>Sue & Andi</i>		
St. Tim's		
10.30am	Morning Worship	Neil Marshall

Walking football for the 65 and over's every Thursday for next 6 weeks at Dorcan Leisure Centre 7-8'. See Rob for more details

Holy Habits

Next Gathering, Sunday 3rd February - Lunch

Preparation for Sharing Resources and Biblical Teaching

After the United Service we will be sharing a light lunch together of soup, bread and cakes to deepen our habit of Eating Together. Then we will think and chat about plans for the next two habits - Sharing Resources - Biblical Teaching.

These are two great subjects to think about and this is a great opportunity to share some food, contribute your ideas or to listen and learn more about Holy Habits.

In order to organise catering there will be an, "I'll be there" sign up sheet on the next two Sundays coming. If you can provide some nice bread and or cakes then please sign up to do so as well.

Finally please bring your own spoon and bowl to help save on the washing up.

Any questions ask a member of the ministry team or email neil@calisnenath.org.uk

Thank you for your support - *The Ministry Team*

+Viv visiting 3rd February 10:30am united service:

We are delighted to share that our new bishop of Bristol, +Viv, will be joining us at this service. She would like to meet us and get to know us, and it will be a privilege to welcome her as she worships with us. I'm sure we will give her a warm Dorcan welcome!

We have our Holy habits lunch afterwards (see above) which will still go ahead, although we may be delayed a little at the start to allow +Viv time and space to meet as many as possible. We look forward to all being together to welcome our bishop.

Centre Administrator and Caretaker – news and help required urgently

Many of you may know that we are presently without a Centre Administrator and a Caretaker. Tania announced she was leaving just before Christmas, and Joe informed us at the end of November. On behalf of the Church, we have wished them well and thanked them for their service amongst us and their support.

Standing Committee has met on several occasions to make arrangements to ensure that we can continue to run as a Church Centre, especially over the busy Christmas period. We are particularly grateful to Diane Killick and to Tony Prichard for arranging and providing vital cover at short notice. Standing Committee is looking at ways of providing both temporary cover and a more permanent solution, and will update ECC on 23rd January.

In the meantime, we urgently require your help, often in simple ways, to help spread the load. This might include helping to move chairs and tables, to open / close up for a booking, or to provide tea and coffee, check the facilities after a booking. I am sure there will be a number of people who feel able to offer help, and so support the ongoing life and mission of our church, and this could be you! Please do speak to any member of the standing committee – Diane Killick, Tony Prichard, John Davidson, Viv Craig, Trudie Wigley, Andrew Wigley – they will only be pleased to hear from you! Thank you.

Library – update on self-service access

ECC met in November with Dale Heenan and Diane Rendell from the Covingham Library Community Trust, and were given a demonstration of the newly-installed self-service access system at Liden Library. Dale and Diane gave very helpful responses to the wide-ranging questions raised by ECC members.

Following the demonstration, ECC met to discuss what had been learnt from the demonstration and from the answers provided. ECC agreed to support the self-service access initiative subject to a number of conditions (details in ECC minutes to follow), including a restriction that the self-service access system will not be used after 6pm until further discussion and agreement has been reached.

Diane Killick, with help from Tony Prichard and John Davidson, has agreed to take the lead on behalf of ECC, commencing in the New Year. A Faculty application will need to be approved, first by ECC, and then through the Diocesan DAC approvals process. All additional costs will be picked up by the Library Trust.

Parents of children under 5

A Care for the Family course about parenting in the early years will start on Monday evenings at St Paul's on February 5th. If you want to come, please book a place with me soon either by speaking to me or email : jennypoole@virginmedia.com. The course is free, but there is a book to accompany it which costs £7.50 which I need to order.

The Hub

Children's and Youth Leaders
celebration evening.



TIME: 7.30pm—9pm Refreshments on arrival

DATE: 28/1/19

VENUE: St. Paul's Dorcan, Covingham, SN3 5BY

 An opportunity for leaders who work with under 18's to worship, pray, support and meet other like minded individuals whether employed or volunteering. For more information, contact Kath Smith on kathsmith@swym.org.uk



SWYM in partnership with Swindon Youth for Christ



On-line booking for St. Paul's

Our on-line booking system for use of St. Paul's Church and Centre is now fully live. All requests for parties, events and meetings (including church meetings) should go through this system please.

Details can be found here:

http://www.dorcanchurch.org.uk/files/centre_bookings.php.

If you have any questions or problems then please ask.

Tony Prichard e-mail: hall.bookings@dorcanchurch.org.uk

THANK YOU - to all my friends at St. Tim's for all the cards and gifts and beautiful bouquet of flowers and cake presented to me to celebrate my 90th birthday recently.

Also to Andrew and others that welcomed my daughter Karen and Paul which made me so happy.

Thank you again. With Christian love, from *Connie*

Edward and Tricia would like to thank everybody at the Dorcan Church for their help and support during the time Tricia was in hospital. For all who prayed, all who sent cards and all those who drove Edward to the hospital each day.

The family are very grateful for all your help. Our prayers are now of thanksgiving for Tricia's recovery.

Love from *Edward and Tricia*.

Room Divider: Over the last month or so, you may have noticed our new blue room divider in the church at St Paul's. This room divider can extend to up to 6m long, or be folded to a compact size for storage, and it also provides acoustic screening.

This unit can be used in a number of ways, e.g. to form an enclosed space for prayer ministry or for a creche, or to be used as a backdrop for when we extend the seating area from the church into the hall. It is also being used to provide some privacy when safeguarding training is being held, and to provide a reduced space for smaller groups. Going forward, we plan to use one side of the divider as an additional internal church noticeboard. In the short time we have had it, it has been of immense use and our hirers are also appreciative of the benefits it brings.

The Bible Course - Explore the BIG story

I am going to be doing "The Bible Course" by the Bible society (8 sessions), probably weekly or fortnightly on a Tues afternoon starting late January/early February. (day and time negotiable). If you would like to join me please contact, in person or on Swindon 617517.

Thanks - Sue Morgans

From the Bible Society Web Site -

- The Bible Course is ideal for 1-2-1 coaching, small groups and larger gatherings and can be used anywhere from homes, work places or prisons. It can also be used by older youth groups, student groups and in churches. The course is accessible for people new to Christianity, ideal as a follow-on from courses like Alpha or for mature Christians wanting to increase their understanding of the Bible.
- Whether you're well versed in Scripture or just starting out on the journey, *The Bible Course offers a superb overview of the world's best-selling book.*

Lots of more detailed information can be found on the Bible Society's web site.

BIG CLEAN UP St Pauls Saturday February 2nd 10 - 12noon

If you can, please do come long to put the sparkle back in our building
Various jobs to be tackled, with lots of T L C

Thank you, *Diane K.*

All items for inclusion in the next notices should be sent to
Anna Newman by **Wednesday 23rd January.** Tel 695698
or email anagram673@hotmail.co.uk Thank you.

Please let me know if you would like to receive notices by email