



**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*

**25<sup>th</sup> April 2021 – Fourth Sunday of Easter  
Gift Day and Annual General Meeting**



**Luke 12: 21 Be "rich towards God"**

<b>St. Paul's</b>	10.30am.	Morning Worship	Rev. Trudie Wigley
	11.30am.	Annual General Meeting	

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 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2021**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

<b>St. Paul's.</b>	10.30am.	Holy Communion	Rev. Stuart Fisher
<b>St. Timothy's</b>	10.30am.	Holy Communion	Rev. Andrew Wigley

*(This will be Andrew's last service at St Timothy's.)*

**WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK**

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup>                      Eve                      CYP Meeting  
Thursday 29<sup>th</sup>                      3pm.                      Standing Committee

**Social distancing as we meet to worship:** It is really good to be meeting again and to see everyone, and there will come a time when we will be able to see more than just everyone's eyes and forehead! This is a little reminder to say that we are still needing to follow distancing requirements and to refrain from mingling, and therefore please could we stay in our seats where we are until it is time to leave? If you need to catch up with someone perhaps do so by phone or meet up in your gardens at another time. Thank you for helping us all do our bit.

**Andrew and Trudie**  
**Arrangements during Sabbatical/Extended Study Leave**

You will be aware that Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May is Andrew's last Sunday at Dorcan ahead of his Sabbatical leave which will then bring his appointment as minister amongst us to a close in August. That Sunday is also Trudie's last before her Extended Ministerial Study Leave (EMDL) until late August during which time the family will also be moving to the Vicarage in Liden.

Arrangements are well under way for support and cover during this time, with the details being shaped in partnership with Standing Committee. We

have a working spreadsheet to make sure we cover everything (it seems to keep growing!) and we give thanks for the support that is enabling this to happen – our own ministry team, the Anglican Deanery, the Methodist circuit and the church family, particularly Rev Stuart Fisher and John Davidson as they hold the leadership during this time.

The Church of England and the Methodist Church recognise the importance of an extended time for reflection and refreshment in ministry, such that in the Methodist Church it is now compulsory every 7 years. Bristol Diocese have granted Trudie's 10-yearly EMDL, having asked her to take this time for reflection at the same time as Andrew given our unique working arrangements. The time we are both away coincides with what is often a quieter time of the year in the life of the church, and post Covid-19 we would encourage everyone to catch up with friends, loved ones and church family and just enjoy the summer being together!

The timing of this leave also gives space to support a transition from one ministry set-up to the next period ahead when Rev Stephen Roe joins us in September. Trudie is returning early from Extended Study leave at the end of August to welcome him and to then start working with her new colleague and the new insights he will bring.

This time on Sabbatical/EMDL is not time off, but a time of spiritual refreshment, exploring and affirming vocation, reflection and of study. Andrew will be exploring the implications of Covid for the future of the church alongside some time of Pilgrimage and reflection on the spiritual journey. Trudie will be studying what economic justice might look like and whether there is such a thing as progressive capitalism for the common good. We won't answer all the questions in the time we have, yet are looking forward to the gift of study and learning. Thank you for supporting us in this opportunity and if you have any concerns, questions, or encouragement, before 9th May then please do contact us.

With thanks. Andrew and Trudie Wigley

## **AGM Elections**

Andrew and others have invested a lot of work in producing job descriptions, and trying to simplify the roles we need to fill, but with a week to go, we still have mostly blank nomination forms.

I believe that the people God wants to run his church here in Dorcan, are here already, they just haven't heard him yet.

Please think and pray about what you may be able to offer, but please do it Quickly.

*John Davidson*

## **Dorcan Church Annual Gift Day and Giving Review**

The Annual gift day will coincide with the AGM, on the 25<sup>th</sup> April, and Church members will also be asked to take this opportunity to prayerfully review their regular giving.

From the 18<sup>th</sup> April, explanatory material will be distributed in both Centres. If you subscribe to one of the regular giving schemes, there will be an envelope with your name on it containing all the information you need about the gift day. Otherwise, please take a copy of the letter, the brochure which explains our financial position, and one of the gift day response envelopes. The response envelopes can be returned in the offertory plate at any of our services, handed to one of our stewards or dropped through the Treasurer's letter box: 1 Poltondale SN3 5BN. Alternatively, a gift can be made by Bank Transfer to: The Dorcan Church, Sort Code 08-92-99, A/c no. 65312775, Ref. Gift day.

We ask that you prayerfully consider how you are able to respond to this appeal. Many thanks

*John Davidson*, Finance Committee Chair and *Tony Prichard*, Treasurer

## **Rev Andrew Wigley**

Andrew's Farewell Service in **The Dorcan Church**, will be held in St Paul's Church, on May 9<sup>th</sup>, at 10.30 am.

A high attendance is expected at this service, therefore to comply with the current Covid distancing regulations we request that if you would like to attend, you reserve a seat by email to Jackie Hancock our Church Administrator, [dorcan.church.office@gmail.com](mailto:dorcan.church.office@gmail.com). **By no later than Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May**, including a contact telephone number, any queries please contact John Davidson 01793827627

If you know of any church members not able to receive emails, who may wish to attend, would you kindly pass this information on, and assist them.

### **This Service will be live streamed.**

It is also hoped that there will be an opportunity to meet with Andrew, in the Church garden, on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> May, in a Covid compliant way, details to follow.

*John Davidson*

## **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."

### **Thanks to All**

A thank you message to everyone in the Dorcan Church from all at St Tim's for all the goodies we all received during lockdown - cards, bible reading booklet, flowers chocolates, etc. it made us all feel very special. And it must have involved quite a lot of organising and work. Lovely!

Bless you for all you do for us. *Sarah Paterson*

**St. Paul's Tiny Tots Group** has restarted sessions for parents with babies and preschool children on Wednesdays, during school terms, with a new start time of 1-3pm. As Covid 19 restrictions currently only allows up to 15 adults to attend we are taking bookings rather than having to disappoint anyone.

To book a place please contact Brenda Fisher on 07799 393845.

If anyone would like to be part of the **reader and prayer team** for morning worship, please contact [smarshall28@ntlworld.com](mailto:smarshall28@ntlworld.com)

I am ready to write the next rota so please contact me this week. Thank you.

*Sandra*

All items for inclusion in the next notices should be sent to  
Anna Newman by Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April  
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.