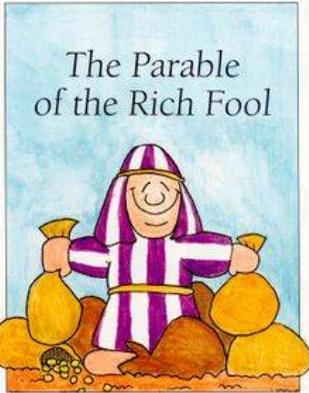




St. Paul's Covingham  
St. Timothy's, Liden  
[www.dorcanchurch.org.uk](http://www.dorcanchurch.org.uk)

31st July, 2016

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



“Watch out and guard yourself  
from every kind of greed”

*Luke 12:15*

## Services Sunday 31st July 2016

### St. Paul's

10.00am

Morning Worship

Neil Marshall

### St. Tim's

10.30am

Holy Communion

Rev'd Andrew Wigley

**Thank you to our young people for the service last week:** Thank you all for leading us in our worship at St. Paul's last Sunday and sharing all about your Spree weekend. We all learnt a lot, and were delighted that you had such a great time away. I hope our efforts to keep up with you in the song “*God can do anything*” weren't too feeble – next time we'll be faster! Thank you all and we look forward to hearing all about Spree 2017 next year!

**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:**

- For the atrocities in France, and the friends and family of Father Jacques Hamel
- For peace and a working to end violence across the world
- For the US in their time of elections
- For this holiday season - for safe travels for those going away, and a time of refreshment for all
- Those in Need Of God's Healing and peace
- The friends & family of 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.

Thursday 28th July	9.30am	Holy Communion at St. Paul's
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**GOOD-BYE**

Leila is leaving us this weekend, and moving to Kent to be near her son and Family. Leila has been a member of the Dorcan Church for 19 years, and Fulfilled many positions, mostly at St. Tim's.

Some of them are - Warden, Deputy Warden, Monday Clup, Tiny Tots, In:School, Messy Church, Thursday Communion, Money Counter and Banker. I am sure I have forgotten some !

Leila, we will all miss you, and wish you all the very best in your new home and Surroundings.

*Viv Craig* - On behalf of the Dorcan Church

**SERVICES 7th August**

**St. Paul's**

10.00am	United Holy Communion	Rev'd Trudie Wigley And Beth Lamb
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Welcome: *Rosemary & Amy*, Teas: *Jean and Joan*  
Sunday Club/Ignite : *Group for children and young people led by Debbie Mulcock*

## Focus on Prayer

The existing pattern of praying for others i.e.; 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 Prayers, who can now be notified by email, text or phone call. If you are considering becoming a Prayerer 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*

The next card class is **Saturday 6th August, cost £9**. Please give money to Colleen Wiseman.

**Sandra Marshall**

### **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 have 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.

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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 6<sup>th</sup> 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 an evening course made up of six ten-week modules.

The next Exploring Christianity course in this area will start on Thursday 22nd September 2016, 7.30 pm, at Lydiard Millicent Primary School, SN5 3LR.

For more information and to register, contact Jayne Mathias at Church House – [jayne.mathias@bristoldiocese.org](mailto:jayne.mathias@bristoldiocese.org) – or ring the Ministry Development office on 0117 906 0100.

## Calling all musicians and singers !!



In September, as part of the Church's 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebrations, it would be good to get a group of singers and musicians together to help lead worship on the Sunday morning.

Now, September may sound a long way off – but, as it's August tomorrow, we don't actually have that long to go! So it's probably time to start getting organised!

I would like to hear from any singers or musicians who are able to play a part in what promises to be an amazing service. We've already got some ideas for songs and how we can get everyone who wants to involved, including, of course, our amazingly talented young people. But, to make this happen, I'll need volunteers as soon as possible, please, so we can start arranging practice sessions and the like.

So please let me know, either in person or via email, if you can help us make a joyful noise on the day, and I'll get the ball rolling. And don't be surprised if I (gently) approach and ask you over the next week or so!

Dave Jones

## **Dorcan Church 50th Anniversary Celebrations**

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> / Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> 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 community.

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2 – 6pm**

### **COMMUNITY FUN DAY**

**Fairground Games, Tug-o-war Competiton  
Bouncy Castle / Slide, Quiz  
Messy Church and Tiny Tots activities  
Swindon YFC BIOS Bus**

**Tea, Coffee and refreshments  
Including Cream Teas and Iced Creams  
Hot Dogs and Chips (from 4pm)**

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> 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 at 1pm**

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

### **Update: St. Paul's Floor and Partition Screen**

ECC met this week and discussed the latest situation regarding the replacement of the flooring and partition screen at St. Paul's. Despite making good progress towards obtaining the necessary Faculty (permission) from the Diocese, it seems that the impact of Brexit has caused delay to the supply of materials due to currency fluctuations! The flooring we had hoped to install would not be available until September at the earliest, and we will therefore miss the opportunity to replace the floor and screen over the coming summer period when most of our groups take a break from their activities.

ECC has agreed that we now aim for the following timescales:

Replacement of Floor	Summer 2017
Replacement of Screen	As soon as possible, but not before 50th Anniversary celebrations

These dates are aimed at minimising disruption to church and centre users, whilst also prioritising the work towards that which most desperately needs to be done, i.e. the partition screen. These are quite complex and demanding projects, and there is further work to be done on the detail of the proposed solutions, but we are now better-placed to see these works through. For example, to replace the floor we will need to move the organ, staging and radiators into storage whilst the work is done, and then re-install them afterwards.

We are thankful that the cost of replacement of the flooring is covered by our insurance, and that could amount to £40,000. We have already agreed funding for the £17,000 cost of the replacement screen through monies already raised, the receipt of a grant of £5,000 and expenditure from our church fabric fund.

Having also replaced the chairs across the two centres, the kitchen and the heating at St. Paul's, and repaired the roof at St. Tim's in the last couple of years, we remain committed to keeping on top of property and fabric matters, though it has placed a heavy burden upon those involved. Your help and support is sought for other activities in the life of the church in order to help balance that load.

All items for inclusion in the next notices should be sent to  
Anna Newman by Thursday 4th August  
Tel 695698 or email [anagram673@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:anagram673@hotmail.co.uk)

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