



St. Paul's, Covingham
St. Timothy's, Liden
Eldene Church

www.dorcanchurch.org.uk
20th September, 2015

'Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me,
and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

Mark 9:37

SERVICES - 20th September

St. Paul's

8.45am	Morning Worship	Neil Marshall
10.30am	Baptism	Rev'd Trudie Wigley
4.00pm	Messy Church	The Team !

Today Andrew Wigley is at Queens Drive Methodist Church

St. Tim's

10.30am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Stuart Fisher
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Messy Church – TODAY 4pm: Our theme will be "*Harvest: giving thanks and sharing*" and we will exploring this in the story of the feeding of the 5,000. The team have been busy planning and preparing and would all those involved ***please arrive around 3:15pm for briefing and prayer.***

Please do pray for this afternoon and for all those who will come.

Readings 20th Sept.	Proverbs 31:10-31 Psalm 1	James 3: 13- 4: 3, 7-8a Mark 9: 30-37
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We are delighted to announce that Rev'd Andrew Wigley has been granted an extension to his appointment for a further five years from September 2016. Thank you Andrew for all you have done and we look forward to our continuing time together.

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.**

What's on this week -		
Monday 21st Sept.	12.45pm 2-4pm 7.30pm	Funeral of Evelyn Bates (at Kingsdown Crematorium) Scrabble and Dominoes at St. Tim's Ministry team at Merlin Way
Tuesday 22nd Sept.	9.00am 7.00pm 7.30pm 7.30pm 7.30pm	Morning prayer at St Paul's Evening Prayer at St. Tim's Methodist Circuit Local Preachers in Lyneham Finance Committee at Merlin Way Men's Fellowship Group at Wiseman Close, Cov.
Wednesday 23rd Sept.	9.00am 1.30am	Tiny Tots at St Paul's Tiny Tots at St Tim's
Thursday 24th Sept.	9.30am AM	Holy Communion at St Paul's KS2 assembly at Covingham Park School
Friday 25th Sept.	2-4pm	The Friday Club meets at St. Paul's (see separate notice - back page)
Saturday 26th Sept.	10am - 4pm	"Building God's house" Away day at Queen's Drive Methodist Church Bring packed lunch!

SERVICES 27th September - We will be continuing in our sharing of "Building God's house" following our away day the day before.

St. Paul's

10.30am	United Holy Communion	Rev'ds. Trudie and Andrew Wigley
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Welcome: *John & Joan*, Teas: *Hazel & Alison*, Sunday Club: *Jo and Helen*

Refugees in Calais – a request for bin bags – TODAY!:

During the weekend of 26th/27th September, our friend John Pearce will be joining a team going to the Calais refugee camps to help tidy and clear rubbish as it is becoming a health hazard. He asks us if we would be willing to support him by providing bin bags! He needs lots and they need to be the very strong thick plastic ones please. These will be given to John at Messy Church this afternoon, so please put them in the box at the door by then. Thank you!

Hannah Mulcock – leaving gift: we are delighted that Hannah has a new job as a Children and Families worker at Leatherhead Methodist Church. Well done Hannah! However, the sad news is that she will be leaving us. Hannah's last time with us is NEXT SUNDAY – 27th Sept – and we would like to present her with a gift. If you would like to contribute then there is a basket by the door together with a card to sign. Thank you. (*Hannah please pretend you haven't seen this notice!*)

The refugee appeal raised the fantastic amount of £606.60, this has been sent to Save the Children for their work with the crisis. Thank you for caring, and sharing. *Diane Killick*

For your prayers:

- *Away-day:* that we may listen to God and one another.
- *Our MPs:* for wisdom and discernment in their decisions.
- *World peace:* as we commemorated the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Britain this past week, we pray for those areas affected by war and violence.
- *University Students:* for those preparing to go to university for the first time.

Building God's House: Thank you to all those who have signed up to our away-day on 26th September - there is still time for you to add your name to the growing list and share your thoughts as we look to what God is wanting us to do as his church. **We need to know numbers for planning the various sessions, and particularly if you are bringing children**, so please do fill in an attendance card.

Some practical arrangements

- *Lunch:* Please bring a **packed lunch**
- *Tea and coffee will be provided.* Mari Wheatley has kindly offered to co-ordinate refreshments for our day, but it would be great if she could have some support. If you are able to help please do let her know
- *Younger church members:* Hannah Mulcock is not able to look after our younger church family alone, so if you are able to help and be a supporting pair of hands as Hannah leads their activities and discussion, please do let her know. This would not mean missing out on the whole away day – just one hour's support would make a massive difference to making our children feel part of the away-day and the church family. Please consider if you can help
- *Timing:* **Please arrive from 9:45** for refreshments, ready for starting our worship just after 10am

This day is your opportunity to share in the discussion about the vision for the church and the planning of our way forward – please come and take part!
If you are unable to come, please continue to pray for us

News of East Swindon Cluster: For the last four years, we have been part of a "cluster" of local parishes. Following a review by clergy, lay representatives and by the Diocese, we share that the formal grouping of the benefices of Dorcan, Stratton, Parks & Walcot, and 'the villages' (together the East Swindon Cluster) is to cease. The initial hopes for the cluster have not materialised for a number of reasons, and it was felt that the mission of God's church in East Swindon is now best served in focussing energies and resources within the benefices, rather than a wider scale. The ending of the cluster will be marked in an appropriate way in due course and the friendships and fellowship that have been formed will of course still continue, although on a less formal basis. Our thanks go to those who have supported the cluster over recent years.

Men's Fellowship Group will meet again on Tuesday 22nd September - 7.30pm at Mike's home - Wiseman Close, Covingham. New members welcome to come and plan our next 3 months meetings and our Christmas Dinner! Paul T

Heating and Flooring at St Paul's – Update: You will know of the problems we have had due to water damage to the flooring in the meeting room, main hall and church at St Paul's. This damage has recently been assessed and the indication is that it could take over a month to replace the flooring. ECC has agreed 1) to defer repairs to the flooring until next year, and 2) to progress at once with the installation of new radiators into the church, aiming for this to be done during the half-term break in October. This approach will firstly ensure that we have heating this autumn and winter after two winters of disruption, and secondly give us more time to plan and consult with the various users of our premises about how to minimise the level of disruption in replacing the floor. In the meantime, please take care where there are areas of flooring that have been patched temporarily.

It has been a tough challenge to keep the heating going over recent years as a result of a series of failures of the heating system, compounded by the recent problems with the flooring. I want to appreciate the hard work and dedication of Diane Killick, Tony Prichard and John Stott who have done a fantastic job in minimising the disruption, and we look forward to having heating restored to the church, and plans in place for the replacement of the flooring. *Andrew Wigley.*

Operation Christmas Child - It is time to think once again about filling a **shoe box for Samaritan Purse Operation Christmas Child** project. Leaflets will be in the church centres in due course; More information on www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk Marie Wheatley has some boxes to be assembled which she has from Samaritan Purse, please ask her for them.
Shipping donation per shoe box is £3 - Collecting date will be advertised in due course.

Chair Fund. *There are just a few of the new chairs left to be paid for. Thank you everyone for your support and what a difference they have made. If you haven't sponsored a chair and would like to do so then you can pay through the collection plate either cash in an envelope or a cheque marked "Chair Fund" or by direct transfer to the Church bank Account using the reference "Chair Fund". Each chair cost £92.50 but any amount is welcome. We will publish the list of dedications for you to check when all chairs have been paid for.* Tony Prichard

At the Friday Club on the 25th Sept. 2-4pm at St. Paul's - we have a speaker from "Dressability" - a local charity who helps disabled people with their individual problems.

St. Tim's Cleaner. We have now employed a cleaner for St. Tim's. Sara Peixoto, who comes to Tiny Tots. We welcome her to St. Tim's for this essential role. Viv Craig

All items for inclusion in the next notices should be sent to
Anna Newman by 24th September
Tel: 695698 or Email: anagram673@hotmail.co.uk
(please let me know if you would like to receive notices by email)