



St Paul's Church



Dear All,

Although Anthea has now gone to lead St Andrew's Church we must all take heed of her parting messages to help and love one another and to continue to grow in our faith. Anthea is tremendously hard working with a huge capacity to get things done and to inspire others to be their best so we hope and pray that our new shared incumbent can live up to the example she has set us.

The team shortlisting for the new post met on Wednesday but at the time of writing I have no news about the outcome. Assuming all goes well though, the interview date will be 13th November and if successful our new appointee could take up their post before Easter. We are planning to hold another joint prayer meeting in the next two weeks together with our friends at St Nicholas', to be held here at St Paul's. As soon as we have a confirmed date Tracey will update everyone by the weekly "what's on" sheet.

This newsletter will continue but will appear monthly instead of weekly and will be written by a different volunteer each month, so do look out for a change in style and content in future issues.

Our service pattern will continue to follow the same scheme with the Café Worship team leading each first Sunday, the third Sundays will have Bubble Church at 9:30 and Gwyn will lead the 10:30 services. The second and fourth Sunday Communion services will be led by Rev Robin Williamson, Father Paul Matthias, Rev Robin Gill or Ven Andrew Sewell and the timetable for these services is on the calendar in the meeting room and the fifth Sunday in December will be a Celtic service led by Jenny Clifton. We are very grateful to all these people who will help us in our worship for the rest of the year.

Our next Café Worship this Sunday is based on the theme of Harvest so please bring along items of produce both fresh and long life so that we have a variety of foods to thank God for.

Other services to note for Christmas time (yes, it's already time to start planning) are a townwide service of carols by candlelight at All Saint's Church Maidstone on Saturday 14th December at 4pm and 7pm. We will also be holding our own carols and Christingle service on Christmas Eve as usual, and our Christmas Day service will be at 10am instead of 10:30 and will be led by Robin Williamson.

Mark Turner

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

SUNDAY 6th OCTOBER – Trinity 19

10.30 am - Café Church – Café Church Team

SUNDAY 13th OCTOBER – Trinity 20

10.30 am - All-Age Holy Communion – Rev Robin Gill

SUNDAY 20th OCTOBER – Trinity 21

9.15 am for 9.30 am - Bubble Church

10.30am Morning Worship – Gwyn

SUNDAY 27th OCTOBER

10.30 am - Holy Communion – Rev Robin Williamson

EVENTS

THURSDAY 10TH OCTOBER

12.30 pm - Mothers' Union: Harvest lunch @ The Bull

THURSDAY 17TH OCTOBER

2.30 pm - Fellowship: Village School – John Viner

SATURDAY 26TH OCTOBER

6.30 pm - Harvest Supper

FOOD BANK

The next delivery will be on Friday 25th October.

PRAYER RESOURCE

week beginning Sunday, 6th October 2024

'... pray for each other so that you can live together whole and healed'. (James 5: 16)

This week we give thanks for:

- All you have given us and all that is safely gathered in, here and around the world; for harvested grain, ripe fruit and vegetables, for tins, packets and all good nutritious food.
- Our homes, friends, family; and give us generous hearts to share all you have abundantly given us with those who do not enjoy a rich Harvest.

Please pray for:

- An end to world hunger, and for those working to overcome global poverty and hardship.
- World leaders that they may show compassion, mercy and understanding.
- People in devastated parts of the world who, in their pain and anguish, are in desperate need of help, hope and basic essentials.
- Young people around the world who feel they have no future and are being unfairly treated and their voices ignored.
- Chaplains and Street Pastors around the country who give up their time to talk, listen and support others.
- Those organising Winter Shelter projects for this year, and pray for people to sign up to help in whatever way.
- Our Church family, and especially all who are struggling: Edith, Pat, Alice, Jill, Trevor, Maureen, Sandra, Brenda, Elizabeth, Carole, Di and Ray; and for Ruth, Meaghan, Linda, Alan, Laura, Dean and Alison.
- God's blessing on our lives, relationships, activities and as we rest.

You may like to use this prayer during this Harvest week:

Gracious God, I pray for everyone in this world who is hungry or thirsty. Please show me ways, however small, in which I can join with you in your mission to end injustices such as hunger and thirst. Amen.