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July/August 2024
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CURATE'S NOTES

Five very special young people were confirmed by Bishop Tony Porter on Sunday 23rd June in a service at St Paul's Church. For them it represented the culmination of months of preparation, and visits to Blackburn Cathedral and Alston Lane Observatory. It was a joyful celebration and, for once, the sun really did shine on Longridge. Thank you to everyone who took part and made it possible. Not least Bishop Tony, the candidates' parents and sponsors, the choir, Paul (our organist) and those who made the delicious cakes and the tea afterwards. You all made it a day to remember, thank you so much.

Personally, I will miss the conversations that I have been having with the candidates over the past few weeks. Proverbs 27:17 tells us that "iron sharpens iron" and there is no doubt that the brilliant questions these young people have been asking has forced me to think about what I believe and why. It appears that it wasn't only the children who learned through the process. My hope is that for them this is not so much the end of a journey, but rather the beginning of a deeper, longer conversation of faith, that will be sustained for the rest of their lives.

Bishop Tony talked a little bit about fear and the storms of life in his sermon . How Jesus doesn't necessarily quell the storm but is always close whilst it rages. He also reminded me that fear isn't just an adult emotion, but it is also prevalent amongst our children from the earliest age. This summer, our confirmation candidates, like so many other year six students, will find themselves in the space between their junior and high schools. Some will find it unsettling. Over the holidays, please do join me in praying that, for all the children, it will be a time of anticipation, not anxiety, a time of happiness and not uncertainty.

Goosnargh and Longridge Agricultural Show

At the time of writing, the Goosnargh and Longridge Agricultural Show is only a couple of weeks away on 6 July. This year our children's church leaders will be running a craft area and baby feeding and changing facility, to give some free parking to any parent who just wants a moment's peace. You will find this in the Churches Together in Longridge & District tent. Some of our church family have also offered to help at Aunt Daisy's Tea Tent, where tea, coffee, soft drinks, biscuits and cakes are being sold in a 'vintage café style marquee. If you are at the show, please do come along and say hello, it would be lovely to see you.

Foodbank

Locally, the demand for the Foodbank continues to rise. The number of people needing support with food and advice from the agencies involved is growing. With children at home for the summer holidays, it's safe to assume that the short-term need for food will also continue to rise. In advance of that, Foodbank managers have issued a request for extra food donations. At the time of writing, our local foodbank, based at St Paul's church particularly needs donations of tinned meat, tinned tomatoes, tinned fruit and tinned potatoes.

Following Jesus with the Northern Saints.

Next month we are on the move in our Sunday sermon series as we follow in the footsteps of the Northern Saints. The saints lived in the kingdom of Northumbria in the seventh and eighth centuries. They converted people to Christianity, established and ran places of prayer and learning and created artistic and scholarly work.

In our series we will be taking a closer look at the lives of St. Aiden, St. Hilda, St. Cuthbert and St. Wilfrid, paying particular attention to how they were inspired by Jesus to inspire others to follow him. The culmination of the series will come in September, with a visit to Durham Cathedral, which is the spiritual home of the saints. Details of that trip can be found on page 5 of this edition of the Log and there are spaces still available.

CURATE'S NOTES – continued.....

School Uniform Fund

Over the summer demands on the school uniform fund increases as families struggle to afford the cost of buying a school uniform for the new academic year. We are very grateful for any contributions. The funds are used to fund the higher value badged items such as blazers and sweatshirts. If you would like to donate, please speak to either myself or our treasurer Graham Kelsall. Thank you for your support.

Equally, if you, or a parent you know is struggling to meet the cost of buying a school uniform for this September you are very welcome to email revsimonking@gmail.com. Once again, we have a voucher scheme set up with local supplier Mary Francis which is both simple and confidential and we can help towards the cost of uniform for primary and secondary schools.

Flower Festival and Parish Picnic

The 'Save it with Flowers' themed Flower Festival will take place at St. Lawrence church over the weekend of Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th July and will culminate with a family service at the church at 10am on the Sunday. Donna Rowe-Green has been visiting various community groups to encourage them to take an interest in growing their own flowers.

The aim of the festival is to encourage everyone to grow their own flowers, partly because of the air miles that some cut flowers must travel to be in our supermarkets, and partly because it is a very rewarding and interesting hobby. For more details of the flower festival, please see page 10 and 11

On the same Sunday 14th July, our Parish Picnic will be held at the Show Ground, off Lower Lane. There will be treats, various bouncy inflatables as well as games and fun for all the family. Hopefully the sun will be shining, but we have alternative plans for the rain and you would be very welcome to join us for this now to be considered annual, free event.

Lychgate Appeal

The church recently launched an appeal to raise £20,000 to restore the important Lychgate at the Parish Church of St Lawrence. The gate has special significance as, over the years, many locals have congregated under it at the start of baptisms, weddings, funerals or visits to the churchyard.

Since it was installed in 1939, it has been a gathering point for celebration and lament but is now threatened by fungal rot and wood boring beetles. The deterioration is such that a complete restoration is needed. Through the appeal, it is hoped that the wider community will help to save it.

If you would like to help to protect this iconic local landmark, please visit the appeal web page on <u>justgiving.com</u> <u>https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/lychgate</u> or if websites are not your thing then have a word with Graham our Treasurer or one of the churchwardens as there are numerous ways in which you can donate to the appeal.

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NORTHERN SAINTS PILGRIMAGE TO DURHAM CATHEDRAL

We are looking forward to our Durham Cathedral trip which will take place on Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd of September, later this year. We have secured accommodation and meals at St John's College, just a short walk from the Cathedral.

There are still places available if anyone has not had chance to book in. Please contact me if you are interested, by email at john.keating.jk10@gmail.com or by phone on 07963195474.



All members of our group will soon receive their personalised statements from St John's, indicating the details of their final payments for accommodation and food. The deadline for payment is still <u>August 1st.</u> Details of how to pay will be included.

Additionally, by August 1st payments for the coach will be required. I will collect this in July too. Cash will be fine, but I will also send out details of my bank account to those travelling by coach. Originally, I had hoped that £18 would cover the cost of the coach, but since for good reasons 15 are going by car, the price per person has now risen to £20 - still quite reasonable I hope you agree. Currently, we have 33 travelling on a 49-seater coach.

The only other aspect we need to factor in is the cost of the tour (with some discount hopefully built in). I expect to receive final details of this shortly and will communicate accordingly.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Here is a reminder of the proposed schedule.

John Keating

Day	Time	Activity	
Saturday 21st Sept	09.00 am	Depart St Paul's	
	10.30 am	Coffee Stop/Stretch	
	12.00 pm	Arrive Durham	
	12.05 pm	Free time and settling into rooms	
	1.00 pm	Lunch	
	2.00 pm	Tour of Durham Cathedral followed by refreshments in Cathedral Refectory	
	3.45 pm	Free time	
	5.30 pm	Evensong at the Cathedral	
	6.40 pm	Evening 3 course meal	
	8.00 pm	Optional quiz and fellowship	
Sunday 22nd Sept	8.30—9.30 am	Cooked Breakfast	
	10.00 am	Sung Eucharist at Durham Cathedral	
	11.00 am	Free time to tour Durham and have lunch of own choice	
	2.00 pm	Depart Durham	
	4.30 pm	Arrive St. Paul's	

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

During June we joined together as one group in Children's Church to explore God's word all together. We have started a theme of 'Builders: Exploring the Bible to build faith'.

We began on the 2nd June where Job was reminded that God is the master builder who planned it all. We drew or wrote on paper bricks things God has created to make a wall (which is hanging in St Paul's) and wrote an A-Z thinking about other things that God has created, then we used Duplo and Lego to build creations. We then played some games and sang the lego version of 'Jesus you're my superhero'.

The following week was our new All Together service which Children's Church Leaders helped Revd Simon to plan. We learned that we are all part of our Church family. We all decorated a person and there are now 79 cardboard cut outs representing our church hanging in St Paul's. We also used a deck of cards to show our family in different ways. We were blessed to have the worship group leading our music.

On 16th June we decorated bees for the Flower Festival (see page 10) and learned about how important they are for our gardens. A big thank you to Donna for visiting us at Children's Church and we hope you enjoy seeing them at the Flower Festival!

On 23rd June we explored 'Building Instructions', we explored stories where God gives instructions on how to build; Noah's Ark and the story of the Two Houses. We started by following our partner's instructions to build a model before exploring the story hands-on! After exploring the stories together we had a range of activities exploring the memory verse and continuing to build using instructions. We then closed our time together with Lego prayers.

What a wonderful month we have had!

We love to meet new families through our children's and young people's groups. Do come and join us or feel free to contact any of the leadership team.

Becky Filder <u>rebeccalouise93@hotmail.co.uk</u>

Marina Walker

Ali Ng ali.ng@btinternet.com







The Log Church Directory

Clergy & Church Officers

Rev. Mike Barton Vicar On sabbatical Curate Rev. Simon King 9 Willows Park Lane 07789 645138 revsimonking@gmail.com Rev. John Ball **Retired Clergy:** 07754 771220

Rev. Adrian Mairs 01772 356015 8 Hacking Drive adrian.s.mairs@gmail.com

Churchwarden Dot Little 26 Hoghton Road 01772 783998 dotlittle003@gmail.com **Dorothy Laver 19 The Pastures, Grimsargh** 07719 389529 dorothy.laver@gmail.com Graham Kelsall **Deputy Wardens** graham@oaktreehouse.net

07740 068099 Mae Hevs 29 Fell Brow

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Michael Dawson Parish Administrator See hours below 01772 783281 secretarystlandplongridge@gmail.com

Health & Safety Officer Chris Martin Michael Dawson **Electoral Role Officer**

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Members: Clergy and Churchwardens

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Chris Martin,

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JudithKaye 01772 785114

Hon. Sec. St. Paul Donna Rowe-Green 07880 348597

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Clerk to the Governors

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School Office 01772 782378

bursar@longridge-cofe.lancs.sch.uk

Pre-School 01772-780078 PTFA Hon. Sec. Katie Keighley

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Children's Church

carolynbarton@hotmail.co.uk Carolvn Barton

Mothers Union 7.30pm on 1st Tuesday

Enrolling Member Judith Kaye Park View, Fleet Street, PR3 3ED

judithkaye@sky.com 01772 785114

Prayerline If you would like our prayer team to pray for you e-mail 12 Plessington Court, Brewery Street, Longridge Murial Anderson Murialanderson33@gmail.com 07823 762089

Tuesday Club 7.30pm on 2nd Tuesday

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Inspirational Words brought to us by Naomi Pinder

Inspiration, Only by Grace

Only by grace can we enter, Only by grace can we stand,

Not by our human endeavour, but by the blood of the Lamb,
Into your presence you call us, you call us to come,
Into your presence you draw us, and now by your grace we come.
Lord if you mark our transgressions, who will come
Only by grace we are cleansed by the blood of the Lamb.

I love this song of worship, the words are so gentle and yet so powerful. Jesus came as God incarnate, God made man, to walk with us on this earth. Jesus came to save us and to baptise us with the Holy Spirit. He is merciful, He forgives our sins, our transgressions of which there are many.



What does Micah say the Lord requires of us: to act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with our God.

I think on those words, to love mercy and I say them aloud, again and again, to love mercy.

These three words are incredible, to love mercy. In His grace, through the incarnation in His son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, God has shown His mercy to me and forgiven me my many sins, as far as the east is from the west, deep beneath the deepest ocean. I am saved. My heart is clean, I am a new creation in my sweetest Lord. My heart is filled with His love, with His grace.

Jesus tells us that if we love Him and follow His Word, we live in Him and He lives in us. What a promise this is, how wonderful, there are no words I can use to express how grateful and thankful I am for His gift in grace.

And Jesus, my sweetest Lord fills my heart with His love and in His grace I forgive those who sin against me. I cannot do otherwise, I don't have the ability to do otherwise.

What gift is this – a clean heart to bring joy to my Lord, ready for when my room is prepared and Jesus comes to bring me to where He is, what joy awaits!

Thank you Lord.



Grace Notes News



Grace Notes is our musical outreach group, formed eight years ago, to entertain and minister to residents in our local care homes and sheltered accommodation.

At present we have nine ladies and three men in the group, led by our new leader, Carly. We are not trained singers, but under Carly's guidance we enjoy what we do. At the same time, we are hopefully jogging good memories, and bringing a little joy into the lives of others.

Counting Down to the Flower Festival

This is a month of two halves.....if you are reading this in the first couple of weeks of July, it is not too late to get involved in our Flower Festival. If you are reading this later in the month – we really hope you enjoyed our festival.

The Festival is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate all things floral, and to be honest, the skills and creativity of every one of you.

We would love to see entries from right across Longridge so please do have a go.

You could

- Fill a tea cup, a jam jar anything, with some flower, herbs or leaves picked from your garden. We are aiming to avoid having too many flowers that have been flown miles across the world. Let's promote the beauty here in the Ribble Valley.
- Maybe make a small arrangement that we could put on a window sill.
- Create flowers from Lego, clay, wood, metal or even sew, crochet or knit some. Honestly, any form of 'flower power' will add to our fabulous, diverse display.

Just pop them to us on **Friday 12th between 9.00 and 5.00.** Collection will be after the Evening Service at 7.30pm on the 14th or from 9.00am onwards on Monday 15th

The Flower Festival will be raising money for much needed restoration of the lychgate. Do you have a picture of the lychgate? It might be a wedding or a candid moment while attending a service or even just visiting the church as part of a walk. We would love to see these pictures and include them in our displays. If you have any, please do contact Dot Little.

Thank you so much.

Donna. 07880348597 or email donnarowegreen@gmail.com.

Cakes, scones and drinks will be available throughout the weekend in the Parish Room. The scone making is in the capable hands of Ann Golding but if you could bake a cake or some biscuits do let Judith Kaye or Dot Little know. We are happy to collect cakes or these can be brought to St. Lawrence's from 9.00am on the Saturday morning, 13th July.

A BUSY WEEKEND

A reminder that as well as the Flower Festival there is the parish picnic on the Showfield on Sunday afternoon 14th July between 2pm – 5pm. It's an event for the whole parish to enjoy and if the weather is kind we will have the opportunity to get fit ready for the Olympics with rounders and races. There will be ice cream and drinks but do bring your own picnic as the bakers will be making cakes for the flower festival refreshments at St. Lawrence that weekend. If its raining still come along – we will take shelter in the pavilion and enjoy lots of indoor games.

We are in for a special weekend – do come and enjoy both the Flower Festival and the Picnic.

St. Lawrence Flower Rota.

July 7th Birthday memories of Hannah Pye

13th & 14th Flower Festival

21st In memory of Ray Saunders

28th Vacant. August. Vacant.

St. Paul's Flowers

July Donna Rowe Green & Pat Hewitt

August Alan & Cathy Coupe.







Flower Festival



St Lawrence's Church, Longridge
July 13th & 14th

Save it with Flowers

A chance to celebrate all things floral and their value to protecting our planet.



Saturday 10.00 - 4.00

Sunday 12.00 - 4.00



Free to enter

Refreshments available

If you would like to be involved please do bring your creations along to St Lawrence's on **Friday 12th between 09.00 and 5.00.** This may be anything from a jam jar of flowers, herbs or leaves collected from your garden, a knitted sunflower to a lego daisy. Anything floral goes.

Donations will help with the restoration of the lychgate.

Sharing a Prayer



As many of you know I am suffering from memory loss due to Alzheimer's but am amazed that I still have moments of past reflections. Recently one evening my school prayer from the 1950's came to mind. I share it with you in the hope it helps you in your life.

Dorothy Mairs

Dear Lord in the quiet of this morning hour I come to Thee for peace, for wisdom, for power
To view the world through love filled eyes.
To be patient, understanding, gentle and wise.
To see naught but the good in anyone I behold.
Silence my tongue to all that is unkind,
Let only thoughts that bless dwell in my mind.
Let me so kindly be so full of cheer, that all I meet
May feel Thy presence near.

Some personal thoughts on prayer from Muriel Anderson.

Prayer is how we communicate with God. If we love Him, we'll want to know how to please Him, how to talk to Him, and how to hear what He wants to tell us. If we never talk to the people we love, it would make for a very strange relationship, so why is it so difficult to talk to God? After all, He loves us so much that He came to earth to die for our sins, offering us complete forgiveness, and the promise of eternal life. God is now our loving Father, who wants only the best for His children. We don't have to kneel down, or even sit down, to pray. We can talk to God wherever we are: doing housework, walking through the park, driving to work (with eyes open, of course!), cooking a meal, or sitting quietly at home. If we're not alone, God hears our silent prayers. In times of trouble, even a two-word prayer is enough ("God, help!").

Personally, I don't tend to pray set prayers; but every now and then a hymn, poem, Scripture or piece of music really seem to sum up the words I want to pray. The hymn "How great Thou art", many of David's psalms, Mendelssohn's violin concerto, Christian worship music - all can inspire us to worship God in prayer. The following (slightly adapted) poem by Elizabeth Barrett Browning is a great favourite of mine:

Lord, how do I love Thee? Let me count the ways.

I love Thee to the depth and breadth and height my soul can reach,

When feeling out of sight, for the ends of being and ideal grace.

I love Thee to the level of every day's most quiet need, by sun and candle-light.

I love Thee freely, as men strive for right. I love Thee purely, as they turn from praise.

I love Thee with the passion put to use in my old griefs, and with my childhood's faith.

I love Thee with a love I seemed to lose with my lost saints.

I love Thee with the breath, smiles, tears, of all my life;

And, if Thou choose, I shall but love Thee better after death.

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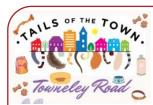


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GETTING TO KNOW YOU - Louise Hough.

I was born in Preston to Hilary & Arnold Hough and spent my very early years in the shadow of PNE Football Stadium. I was baptised (ironically) at St. Paul's Church on the now ring road. In 1963 my parents and I moved to Longridge to a home built by my dad, in which my mum still lives today. My sister, Susan, came along in 1965. I attended our church primary school before moving on to Longridge High School and then Penwortham Girls High.

My earliest recollections of church are being asked by a friend of my dads, (whose house he also built incidentally), to join the church choir along with him and his son, which I did at the tender age of seven in 1968! Learning the psalms and canticles and singing Ancient & Modern Revised hymns – always my favourites, many of which I know by heart. Happy days spent singing alongside the Blands, Smiths x 2, Salisbury's, Jacksons, Kennedy's and many others. I clocked up 37 years.

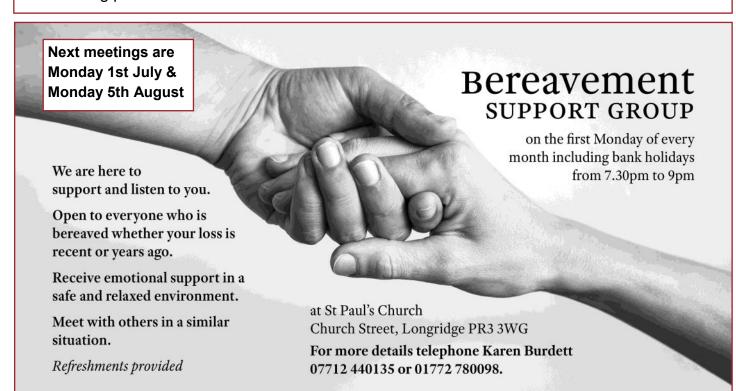


I became a Sunday School teacher at 18 and enjoyed nurturing the spiritual development of our young children every Sunday afternoon, only stopping doing so when it moved to mornings to coincide with morning prayer and unfortunately then clashed with choir duties.

Myself and a group of friends, also became young leaders of the church youth club then run by Dot Little & Glynne Proctor. After the then current vicar, the Rev. E.P.A. Furness retired, our new incumbent, Richard Awre asked Dot Little who our previous vicar had asked to read at a special service, to which I believe she replied, "he always asked Louise." Thanks Dot! Following this I organised the readers rota for several years, ensuring someone read the gospel at every service. In the early 90's I was asked to serve as a member of the PCC and did so until just before the birth of my daughter, Poppy, in 1999.

I have worked for the NHS, in Pharmacy, at PRI, Sharoe Green, Whittingham and now Royal Preston Hospital since 1979. After nearly 46 years I am now semi-retired but still work two days a week supporting the running of clinical trials for the trust, which I have done for the last 18 years.

I have always had a love for music and as some of you will know, heavy metal. My daughter also has the same passion. We are 'gig' buddies and enjoy travelling to watch our favourite bands. When I am not working or 'gigging' I keep my semi-retired brain alive by completing a vast array of mind teasing puzzles and crosswords.



Lychgate Appeal Launched.

On Saturday 15th June ten couples, all married at St. Lawrence and actually totalling 387 years of marriage between them came together to help officially launch the appeal to raise the £20,000 needed for the restoration of the Lychgate. The photograph was taken in pouring rain, with the group happy to shelter under the Lychgate which of course is one of its main purposes. The photograph has since formed part of a press release highlighting the Just Giving site www.justgiving.com/campaign/lychgate. We are pleased to report that well over £2,000 has already been raised through that site which is really encouraging. A sincere thank you.

Of the ten couples in the photograph Chris and Elizabeth Martin only got married in St. Lawrence last year; Geoff and Kathleen Sturzaker will celebrate their Golden Wedding in September but Bill and Adrienne Atkinson have clocked up 65 years, marrying in 1959. It was fascinating to see some of the wedding albums and the past Longridge vicars who conducted those Services. We also forget that wedding photographs were black and white until the end of the 1960s. Dot & Fred Little recalled that in 1972 they were allowed just six coloured photographs in their wedding album.

We look forward to the display of wedding photographs being part of the Flower Festival in July and its not too late to let us have your photographs taken at the lychgate or with the lychgate in view. Either email them to Dot Little or let her have an actual copy which can then be scanned and the original returned to you.

When we look back at the history of our Parish Church one thing that really strikes you is the way St. Lawrence's day, 10th August, was annually celebrated – often with large processions and this year as that date falls on a Saturday and with the appeal underway it seems appropriate to mark the date with a social event.

The 10th August will definitely be a special day for one couple who are getting married at St. Lawrence's on that day but long after the happy couple have gone off to their wedding breakfast celebrations we plan to set up the Parish Room for afternoon tea to run from 4.00pm – 5.30pm.



Lychgate Appeal Launched-continued.....

Revd. Simon doesn't feel we can have just cold food if it's related to St. Lawrence who as well as being patron saint of the poor is also the patron saint of cooks linked to the gridiron. So in honour of St. Lawrence there will be BBQed sausages as well as sandwiches, cakes and scones.

As this is a double edition of the Log covering both July and August we wanted to let Log readers know about the event which will raise money for the Lychgate.

If you would like to book a table for afternoon tea anytime between 4pm and 5.30pm then you can do so in advance by contacting either Dot Little 783998 or Ann Golding 784986. It would give us an idea on numbers if people did book in advance but its not essential, you are welcome to just come along – we have never been at a Longridge church event where we haven't had enough food yet!

I think the FF & F group, who will be helping run this event, would like to say at the outset that we do not plan to match the wonderful afternoon tea the Brigade produces each year but we can promise assorted sandwiches, scones, jam and cream and assorted cakes and as much tea/coffee as you can drink, not to mention the good company you will be sharing.

We will put further details about the arrangements on the pew sheets and on Facebook once the Flower Festival has taken place but if you are not on holiday on the 10th August do come and join us, enjoy tea, celebrate St. Lawrence and through the money raised help to get the lychgate

DONATIONS

In memory of Bert Laker for Lychgate restoration £100 For Lychgate restoration, W. Fordham £40



Brew Time

Wednesday's from 8.50am-11am (THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER)

In St Paul's Centenary Room.

We serve tea, coffee, toast, crumpets and cakes!

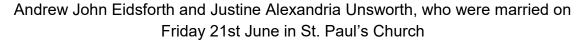
And there's always a warm and friendly welcome.

Do join us we would love to see you.

Kath & Jacqui Bev & John

WEDDING

Many congratulations and our very best wishes to:





BAPTISMS

We congratulate and pray for those who have been recently Baptised into our Church family:

Paisley Rue Corrigan on 2nd June 2024 at St. Paul's Church
Toby James Corrigan on 2nd June 2024 at St. Paul's Church
Oscar John Corrigan on 2nd June 2024 at St. Paul's Church
Leila Jade MacWilliam on 21st June 2024 at St. Lawrence's Church





SCHOOL NEWS - from Headteacher Catherine Parkin

Out and About - Bikeability

Some things are taught much better outside of the classroom. Our Year 6 children recently completed their Bikeability training with Go Velo. Over 2

days of practical sessions, the children progressed from learning basic skills on the playground to putting these into practice on public roads. This is one of the ways we enhance our PSHE curriculum, ensuring that personal safety is a priority.





Cricket

The children from Classes 2, 3, 4 and 5 got the chance to brush up on their cricket skills with some expert tuition from Caitlin of Longridge Cricket Club. Here you can see Year 2 enjoying their session on the school field. It would be great to see some of our pupils deciding to take up this sport at the club!



Field Day

For once, we didn't have to worry about the weather – it was perfect! Field Day2024 was a beautiful, bright and



breezy day. As usual Mrs RW had spent weeks planning and preparing. The different classes made owls, broomsticks and golden snitches to



decorate our float and on the day itself, everyone turned up in

the most wonderful costumes. You can see some of our staff above, including Mrs McCormick who won second prize for her Mandrake costume. Robbie Dewhurst won 2nd place in the under 7s category whilst Oliver and Bella Holmes were 1st and 2nd in the 8 to 11 years age group.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!

Our school uniform shop has been passing on good quality, second-hand uniform for a little while now. Hopefully this helps our families save money, but more importantly it means we are not sending perfectly good clothing to landfill. Our Year 6 helped to set it up in the hall after school recently so that everyone could come and take their pick.



SCHOOL NEWS – continued.....

While the uniform shop was open, Year 5 introduced their clothing swap shop for the first time. They had collected quite a range of unloved or outgrown clothes and were then able to go 'shopping' for free, choosing other items that they liked to take home. Thank you to everyone who donated both uniform and non-uniform items. You helped us to do our bit for the environment as well as sending an important message to our children about avoiding waste.



School Worship - Courage



We end the school year with the theme of Courage at the centre of our worship. This is one of the school's Christian values. We have learned about the Bible stories of David and Goliath, as well as the story of King Nebuchadnezzar. Luckily, we are not often asked to stand up to a giant or face a fiery furnace to defend our beliefs. However, we have learned that there are some occasions when we have to swim against the flow, like the salmon, to stand up for what we believe in. We may have to stand firm and say, 'No' when others are persuading us to do wrong or we may have to go against

the crowd when people are trying to diminish our faith.

Light Our church worship last month fell just after the longest day of the year, so we took light as the theme for this worship. A sunrise time of 4.41am and a sunset at 9.45pm on the longest day meant that our part of the world had the benefit of 17 hours of light. In our world we use light in celebrations: candles on birthday cakes, fairy lights on the Christmas tree and fireworks on New Year's Eve. We also use light for safety. We need torches to see our way in the dark, car headlights to be safe on the road and lighthouses to prevent accidents at sea. It is no wonder then



that Jesus described himself as the Light of the World. He is both our safety and our joy. There are about 200 references to light in the Bible but I like St Paul's simple instruction in Ephesians 5 v8, 'Walk as children of light.'

Diary Dates for the end of term

Y6 Induction Day (LHS & St Cecilia's) – Mon 1st July

Y3 & Y4 to Blackpool Circus – Wed 3rd July

PTFA Pyjama Jog – Fri 5th July (more details to follow)

Y2 to Blackpool Zoo – Tue 9th July

KS2 Performance – Pirates of the Curry Bean – Tue 9th July 1.30pm (ticket information to follow)

KS2 Performance – Pirates of the Curry Bean – Thu 11th July 6pm (ticket information to follow)

Trophy Assembly – St Paul's Church – Fri 12th July 9.15am

Y6 Leavers' trip to Level in Preston - Mon 15th July

Y6 Leavers' Assembly - St Paul's Church - Fri 19th July 1.30pm

School Closes – Friday 19th July 3.30pm

School reopens for the new academic year on Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Mothers' Union

Did you know that Madagascar had suffered horrendous floods?



The following is a report by Sheran Harper, our worldwide president, which can be read in full on www.mothersunion.org

"Resilience is the heart and soul of Mothers' Union, because in the face of uncertainty, challenge, suffering or disaster, we are right there on the frontline.

It is not easy when families watch all they have worked for and built for the future generations, destroyed, and washed away in the twinkling of an eye. Even further, before they can recover to rebuild the destruction to property and infrastructure, high winds, mudslides, and floods strike again. Villages and towns cut off, families displaced, schools destroyed, and there is little or no access to food, clean drinking water, electricity, and medical supplies. Several agencies supply emergency aid and monies to start rebuilding, but it is our vast network of members on the ground who are capable of pastoral support and ready with a plan to equip and mobilize communities to work together to be resilient, rebuild stronger and better, for a sustainable future.

Bishop Samy highlighted that Madagascar, due to its geographical position, endures most of the south-western Indian Ocean cyclone season. Zonal Trustee Marie-Pierrette Bezara lamented, "The first quarter of every year is the worst time for us. In 2022 we had four consecutive cyclones in 3 months. Each year I rescue family after family in my home from the flood waters."

Our Provincial Community Development Coordinator, Jocelyne Vololoniaina, said that the best thing that happened for them was that the church and Mothers' Union are working together to build resilient communities through holistic development."

There is a lot more but Sheran ends with these words.

"Imagine a world where the seas and the winds are at peace.
Imagine a land free of violence, poverty, and social injustice.
Imagine Mothers' Union where the love of Jesus Christ is magnified!
May the flood gates of the heavens open, releasing showers of blessings ..."

We may moan about the weather but at least we don't have to endure such terrible events and the consequences.

Dates July 2nd Tea party 6.30pm start

Aug No meeting Sept 3rd Service

JAK

Crafty Café

The cafe opens once a month on the last Monday of the month (except December). It's a time to socialise whilst enjoying a brew. If you have a portable craft project on the go, please bring it and carry on whilst chatting. No project, don't worry, come and chat anyway. The last Monday of the month means we meet on Bank Holidays - a local destination, no motorway madness!

So, come and join us at St. Paul's Centenary Room 1.30 - 3.30, 29th July and 26th August.

Helen Bailey (01772 783178)







200 MILES IN A DAY (on a bike 24th August)

Many of you will know my husband Keith died last November having lived with type one diabetes for over 48 years.

My son, Roger, very quickly decided he wanted to do something to honour his father, so in his own words, with a little embellishment from me, this is his plan.

"Inspired by my Dad, who when he died last November, had lived with diabetes for 48 years, my route has been chosen to take in places that were significant to him. Starting in Uppingham, Leicestershire (JK - where our granddaughter Natalie, played for Lancashire under 17's in a national cricket final, which they won, what a day!) I'll then travel north to Barnsley (JK -

Keith's place of birth) and across the Pennines to the Fylde coast taking in Lytham Cricket Club (JK - Keith's first club), then past Blackpool Football club (JK - Keith was a staunch fan and his ashes are buried there) before heading home to Longridge, a journey of 200 miles which I aim to complete in 15-16 hours. There were so many changes in the way Dad managed his diabetes over the years and it would be good to help the work of Diabetes UK looking into what changes may be possible in

> the future. I have set up a JustGiving page for donations which will go to towards that valuable work." RDK

I am so proud that Roger decided to do this and to think of such a poignant route to follow. He is hoping that some of the cycling



fraternity, he has got to know, will join him for a while during the day when he is passing through their area, but accompanied or not I know he has the determination to complete this for Keith and I will support him as necessary throughout his journey.

JAK



A GREAT LONGRIDGE FIELD DAY.

Revd. Simon we could not let the opportunity pass without sharing a photograph of you in the Field Day procession – if truth be known we had a job to recognise you. We are not used to all that hair!

WELL DONE to Rie Waterman and helpers, in fact everyone involved in the superb Berry Lane School float which this year took the theme of Harry Potter. We know



Birmingham

the children did a lot of the colourful decorations and it all looked great with an amazing number of staff and young people walking as well as being on the float.



Congratulations to St. Wilfrid's R.C. Primary School who won first prize and a big thank you to the Field Day committee for all their hard work. We were fortunate in having a breezy but fine afternoon with wonderful support both for the procession and on the recreation ground.



Brigade News shared with us by Olivia Stewart

Another busy month at Brigade which was started by 5 of our members spending the May bank holiday weekend volunteering at Chipping Steam Fair. They experienced multiple seasons over the weekend which was challenging resulting in the Monday being cancelled, however the whole committee were super impressed and pass on their praise and thanks for all the hard work. We then enjoyed a week off for half term before returning on the 5^{th of} June.

Martins and team

The first night back was spent by getting out the parachute- everyone's favourite! They then created a book to teach the members the Lord's Prayer. The following weeks have included lots of games, having a go on musical instruments and making funny spiders in craft which we tried to race against each other. We were lucky to have Donna come in to Brigade one evening to spend time with all the members making grass heads. They have taken them home to water and look after and will return them for the church flower festival. Thank you, Donna, for taking the time to come into Brigade.



JTC and Seniors

Our JTC and Seniors have been very busy practicing for the Festival of Music and Drill which is taking place on 5th July weekend over in Beverley. 6 of our members will be performing a Drill piece to Ghostbusters and partaking in a combined band with Chorley. Weekly practice has begun, and we hope to share with you how the event went in our next Log edition. The rest of the JTC and Seniors members have been enjoying various 'flower' created crafts which will be used for our display at the flower festival, which also included making the flower heads with Donna. They have also enjoyed the good weather by taking part in scavenger hunts and games outside. It has also been lovely to have several of our members moving up from Yteam early and to welcome 2 new members to our Brigade family who have settled in well.



We continue to keep Janet and her family in our hearts, and I'd like to take this opportunity to share a prayer for them:

Heavenly Father,

We lift Janet and her family to you as they continue to navigate this challenging journey. Grant them strength, comfort, and hope in the face of cancer. Surround them with your love and peace, providing healing and grace each day. May your presence be a constant source of encouragement and courage.

In your holy name we pray Amen.









The 101 Lancashire Trigs A challenge accepted by Sheila Roberts and Mary Cookson

Sheila bought the book The Lancashire Trig Bagger for Mary in 2023 and the two regular walkers decided to take up the challenge of finding them together. The first one was at Nicky Nook in February 2023 and they expect the whole 101 will have been visited over a period of eighteen months.

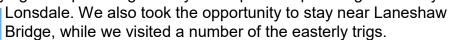
Trig Points (trigonometrical stations) are concrete pillars about 4 foot high. They were designed by Brigadier Martin Hotine, and built between 1936 and 1962 as part of the Ordinance Survey's retriangulation of Great Britain. Often, they are located on the highest point in the area, so that there is a direct line of sight to the next, although this wasn't always easy to see! With the advancement of technology, the trig pillars are now obsolete, but have become increasingly popular as a walking destination.



The location of the Lancashire boundary has been an education, from the most northerly point near Kirkby Lonsdale, to Skelmersdale in the south, and the Lancashire/Yorkshire border in the east. The heights of the pillar location have varied tremendously, from the flat lands of the Lancashire coast, to the heights of the Forest of Bowland. The higher the trig, the more spectacular the 360 degree views, especially from the Trough of Bowland, where we could glimpse the 3 Peaks, Pendle, Beacon Fell and Longridge Fell. During our adventure, we have trudged through peat bogs and open moorland, and walked on the fells, usually ending up with wet feet!

Originally, the trigs were all painted white, but the paint has now come off many, due to weathering. Of the 101 trig pillars, only one is demolished and one is on its side. Some were easier to find than others, and varied from being hidden in hedges, up to walls and near property, as well as in very remote areas. The most isolated one was Wolfhole Crag, for which we were out walking most of the day.

As well as being the most northerly, Gragareth Fell is the highest, and we were able to combine this with several others, while enjoying a couple of nights stay in the picturesque village of Kirkby





Doing this challenge has enabled us to visit new places, that we didn't know existed. The access and parking for a number of them has been tricky, and we are grateful to lan for being our chauffeur, and for putting up with us, when our map reading skills let us down! He has negotiated some very narrow, twisty and steep roads, without which, we would have struggled to complete the challenge.

We really are spoilt for beautiful cafes in Lancashire! Each time we walked, our reward was often a different, but always enjoyable café, to enjoy our lattes and bacon butties! With only nine trigs left to complete, we hope to finish next month, after which we'll be looking for our next challenge – any ideas!

Sheila and Mary

HYMNS WE LOVE –BY Paul Warren O Jesus, I have promised

This hymn was written by the Revd John Ernest Bode (1816-74) for the confirmation of his three children in 1866. It was first published in 1868 as a leaflet by the Anglican organisation SPCK (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge) with the title "Hymn for the Newly Confirmed".



When later published in the second edition of Hymns Ancient and Modern in 1875, its success was assured. Indeed, more than 50 years later, composer and hymnal editor Percy Dearmer noted its popularity to the point of overuse in his *Songs of Praise Discussed* (1930): "Bishops have been known to implore their clergy that this hymn should not be sung at all the Confirmations they attend."

Bode was born in St Pancras, London, his father being head of the Foreign Department of the General Post Office. Educated at Eton, Charterhouse and Christchurch, Oxford, he was ordained in 1841. He was rector of Westwell, Oxfordshire from 1847 to 1860, and for the remaining fourteen years of his life he held the living of Castle Camps in Cambridgeshire.

One thing to note, is that the first line of the first verse originally read "O Jesus, we have promised", this is because it was for Bode's children. When Bode wrote this hymn, he told his children "I have written a hymn containing all the important truths I want you to remember."

Although the opening lines are clearly intended to refer to promises made by confirmation candidates, there is nothing in the hymn to restrict its use to this particular service, and it is sung widely in churches of all denominations in ordinary Sunday worship.

O Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
Be Thou forever near me,
My master and my friend;
I shall not fear the battle
If Thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway
If Thou wilt be my guide.

O let me feel Thee near me!
The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
The tempting sounds I hear;
My foes are ever near me,
Around me and within;
But Jesus, draw Thou nearer,
And shield my soul from sin.

O let me hear Thee speaking In accents clear and still, Above the storms of passion, The murmurs of self will. O speak to reassure me, To hasten or control; O speak, and make me listen, Thou guardian of my soul. O Jesus, Thou hast promised
To all who follow Thee
That where Thou art in glory
There shall Thy servant be.
And Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
My master and my friend.

O let me see Thy footprints,
And in them plant mine own;
My hope to follow duly
Is in Thy strength alone.
O guide me, call me, draw me,
Uphold me to the end;
And then in Heav'n receive me,
My Saviour and my friend.



Hymns We Love - continued.....

The text is based on a verse in John 12 following Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and his travel to Bethsaida of Galilee, just before his impending passion when he shares with his disciples: "The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified. Verily, verily, I say unto you, except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.

He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal. If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour" (John 12:23-26).

I have a soft spot for this hymn. Partly, because it was my mother's favourite hymn, and partly also because this hymn was sung at my daughter's confirmation at St Paul's in Longridge back in 2006. My father, wife and son and I were all sitting behind the organist for that service. Little did I know that we'd end up being next door neighbours to the organist (Nigel Spooner)!

The last verse reminds me of a board on my bedside table. On this board is written:

One night a man had a dream. He dreamed he was walking along the beach with the Lord. Across the sky flashed scenes from his life. For each scene he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand: one belonging to him, and the other to the Lord.

When the last scene of his life flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints in the sand. He noticed that many times along the path of his life there was only one set of footprints. He also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in his life.

This really bothered him and he questioned the Lord about it:

"Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you most you would leave me."

The Lord replied: "My son, my precious child, I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

I find those words to be of great comfort during times of sadness, trouble or uncertainty.

Now to the tunes to which this hymn is sung to, As it turns out, there are quite a few different tunes, but I'll narrow the choice down to the following four:

- Angel's Story Arthur H Mann (1850-1929)
- Wolvercote William H Ferguson (1872-1950)
- Thornbury Basil Harwood (1859-1949)
- Hatherop Castle Geoffrey Beaumont (1903-1970)

Most congregations sing it to Hatherop Castle (sometimes called the modern tune). Dear readers, I have a confession to make... I really dislike that tune! My favourite from the above tunes is Wolvercote, which we use sometimes, probably more so at evening service than for morning service. The tune Thornbury is normally associated with the hymn "Thy hand, O God, hast guided". The tune Angel's Story is what I remember singing to the hymn "I love to hear the story, which angel voices tell".



CHOIR NOTES—Paul Warren

The choir has had two new joiners, or rather, one former choir member and one new member. We're delighted to have Andrew and Shaun in our ranks, and hope that they'll enjoy the singing.



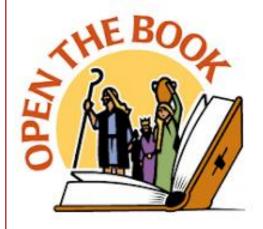
The summer months are already here and the choir will be having their annual August break from choir practice and evening service.

We've been enjoying revisiting some of the music the choir have done in the past, along with some new pieces. The exercise of cataloguing the manuscripts we have upstairs continues, and a very big thank you to Ann and Rosemary who have been helping out in this exercise.

As I write this entry, I've just come back from Confirmation Service. I personally found myself being in two places at the same time (metaphorically speaking)... Let me explain...

My first job as an organist was when I was a student in Belfast and I was organist at Immanuel Church, in Ardoyne, Belfast. About a year ago I reestablished contact with one of the choir (it all happened due to a funeral I played for, where the deceased had been married at St Matthew's Church in Belfast. I did a bit of digging around, mainly to confirm that that church was my father's first curacy and came into contact with a member of my choir at Immanuel). Anyhow, today (the same day as our Confirmation Service), was their last service, as that church is now closed. So, I found myself spiritually attending two services at the same time.

On a happier note, (I'm being sharp here as I don't want to fall flat on my face... sorry for the groaners there), it seems we may have a few days of sunny weather. I wish everyone a happy and relaxed summer.



Open the Book has been running for more than six years now. We are a team of storytellers who go into Berry Lane Primary School every other Wednesday morning. We dress up and act out Bible stories for the whole school, during assembly. On the Wednesday mornings that we don't perform, we rehearse for the following week, straight after Brewtime at St. Paul's.

Not only is this a fun thing to do, but it also brings Bible stories to life for all our local schoolchildren. This in turn gives them a good understanding of the Christian faith. We can tell by the children's enthusiasm that they look forward to our visits and

love to take part when possible.

We have just completed our storytelling programme, which covers every story in the Lion Children's Bible. In September we will be starting at the beginning once more, with stories from Genesis. As we once again cover the stories of Creation, Noah, Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, and Jonah, it will be good to see the reactions of many more children.

If you are interested in knowing more about Open the Book, please talk to Rev Simon or any member of the team. We can always be found at Brewtime on a Wednesday.

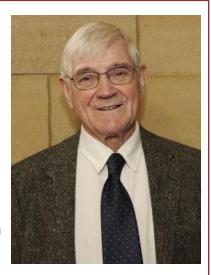
Muriel Anderson

James (Dennis) Thornber, tells us about his Morris Minor Classic Car.

I have lived in Longridge all my life, I went to Berry Lane C of E School until I was 13 and then went to the Secondary Technical College in Preston which is now the University.

I started work in a medium to heavy engineering firm in Preston and stayed there for 39 years. I am an engineering fitter by trade but eventually became a Design Engineering section leader before I retired from there and started my own Design and Draughting Company for 7 years until I decided to retire permanently.

I was happily married to Valerie for 56 years until she died on 5th March 2023. We had two children and I now have four grandchildren.



I have always been interested in anything mechanical and able to fix most of my own and family's cars including reconditioning two car engines.

When I retired I decided I would like to own a classic car, so I researched the classic cars and eventually decided on a Morris Minor 1000 because of the availability and cost of spares. I knew very little about the construction and suspension design of the Morris Minor, when I purchased my first one for £250. I was assured that it was a one owner and in good condition but eventually found out it was not in good condition, so it had to be sold for parts. I purchased another one for £1200 and still have it today, so have had it for about 11 years. I used

I purchased another one for £1200 and still have it today, so have had it for about 11 years. I used it to take my youngest granddaughter to her prom. night at Ferrari's and a photo of the car was on Longridge High School notice board for months.

The furthest distance I have driven the car is to Leighton Hall Classic Car Show and back of course. I have never considered using the car for a holiday as the boot is so small and I would like to arrive on the day I set off. The car has covered 62,957 miles, genuine because backed up by various documents.

We got pleasure from group car runs with the car club, but were not big fans of car shows. I never put the car into Longridge Field Day because I felt it was not a show car as a lot of them are.



The brakes on the Morris are not like modern brakes but if kept in good condition are quite acceptable to modern traffic conditions.

My Morris is a 1967 model with a 1098cc engine which is quite adequate. I have not used the car for some time due to health problems, now when I could use it the car itself has developed a health problem, which I would have fixed myself in the past but age and health problems prevent me from doing work on it. I will have to have it taken to a garage to get it fixed but that takes the fun out of owning a classic.

Travels with Dorothy Laver - Happy Memories of Auld Reekie

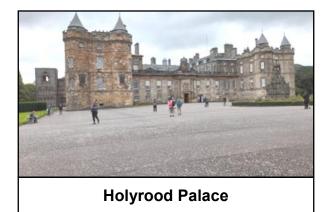
England's not too impressive start to the Euros 2024 and another campaign to win a major soccer championship, made me think back to Saturday 30 July 1966 when England won the World Cup at Wembley. I remember watching that match on a very small portable, black and white television set in our caravan on a campsite just outside Edinburgh. (How my Dad managed to get a TV signal was a minor miracle but it must have been a very grainy picture!.) I can't really recall what else we did on that holiday but assume we went into Edinburgh to see the city.

Four years later we were back in Edinburgh at the closing ceremony of the 1970 Commonwealth Games at the Meadowbank Stadium near Holyrood Palace which was attended by Queen Elizabeth 11. There was some Scottish success in the athletics and I remember "Scotland The Brave" being played on the bagpipes. On another visit in March 1979 I stayed for a weekend with a university friend and we went to the old Murrayfield rugby ground and watched Scotland draw 11-11 with Ireland. Many years later we stayed on the same caravan site and took our two boys to Edinburgh Zoo to see the famous penguin parade. More recently Dominic and I went to see the pandas which were on loan from China . .

I've lost count of how many times I've now visited "Auld Reekie" as the capital of Scotland is affectionately known by Scots. (Just to explain "Auld Reekie" literally means "Old Smoky" from the time when smoke from open coal and peat fires billowed over the crowded old town). It really is a stunning city with lots of history and is quite compact to explore on foot. The historic fortress of Edinburgh Castle dominates the skyline and the medieval old town. Every day at one o'clock a gun is fired from the castle. It stands at the top of the Royal Mile and from the battlements there is a great view down onto Princes Street with the gardens, the National Gallery of Scotland and the Memorial to Sir Walter Scott. (The main station is called "Waverley" after one of his novels). The Royal Palace of Holyrood and the modern Scottish Parliament building stand at the bottom of The Royal Mile. St Giles Cathedral is about half way down the hill. There is also the Georgian New Town to explore. A notable restaurant to try is "The Dome" which used to be an old bank building.

Last August I took my Brazilian friend to visit Edinburgh. The Edinburgh International Festival was in full swing with the Festival Fringe and various street artists performing their shows at allotted spots on the Royal Mile. It was all very colourful and entertaining. My friend insisted on a visit to the Scotch Whisky Experience to learn about whisky production (all about the water apparently) and to sample a wee dram. After prolonged discussions in the shop Cleusa came away with a bottle of Macallan to take back home safely wrapped up in bubble wrap.

We also had a memorable evening at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. The Tattoo is a ceremonial form of evening entertainment performed by military musicians. The Royal Air Force was the lead service. Seeing the massed pipes and drums march out of the Castle gatehouse and down the Esplanade was an impressive sight to end our visit.







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OUR WORSHIP AND READINGS

Our vision is With Jesus On Mission

Our regular Sunday 'in church' services Thro' June, July & August are below.

St Paul's Holy Communion Service with Children's Church at 10:00am (arrival from 9:30am) St. Paul's 'All together' Service 10:00am on 2nd Sunday of the Month St Lawrence's at 6:30pm (arrival from 6:00pm)

The readings that will feature in these services are listed below.

Our regular mid-week Holy Communion Service takes place on Thursday at St Paul's at 10am

7th July Trinity 6 Northen Saints—St Aiden

10am St Paul's Holy communion with Children's Church

1 Corinthians 9: 16-23

Matthew 19: 27-30

6.30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Psalm 66

1 Corinthians 9: 16-23 Matthew 19: 27-30

14th July -Trinity 7 - All Age Flower Festival at St. Lawrence's

10 am St Lawrence—All Age Worship

6.30pm St Lawrence's Holy Communion

1 Peter 4 : 12– end John 16 : 29-end

Leviticus 25: 1-7 Matthew 6: 25-34

21st July Trinity 8 - Northern Saints—St. Hilda

10am St Paul's Holy communion with Children's Church

Ephesians 4:1-6

Luke 5 : 17- 25

6.30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Psalm 73

Ephesians 4 : 1- 6

Luke 5: 17-25

28th July Trinity 9 — Northern Saints—St. Cuthbert

10am St Paul's Holy communion with Children's Church

Acts 14:6-18

John 7: 14-30

6.30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Psalm 74

Acts 14:6-18

John 7: 14-30

DATES AT A GLANCE

July

1st Bereavement Support Group 7.30pm – 9.30pm St. Paul's

5th Brigade Festival of Music and Drill taking place in Beverley

6th Longridge Show – Showfield, Lower Lane

13th & 14th Flower Festival in St. Lawrence's – Saturday 10am – 4pm

(Sunday 12 Noon – 4pm)

14th Parish Picnic – Showfield, Lower Lane. 2pm – 5pm

29th Crafty Café – 1.30pm – 3.30pm St. Paul's

August.

5th Bereavement Support Group 7.30pm – 9.30pm St. Paul's

10th St. Lawrence Day Afternoon Tea in the Parish Room at St. Lawrence from 4pm – 5.30pm for Lychgate Restoration.

24th Roger Kaye's 200 mile bike marathon in aid of Diabetes UK.

26th Crafty Café – 1.30pm – 3.30pm St. Paul's.

A reminder that Brewtime will take place throughout the Summer on Wednesday mornings 9.00am – 11pm.

OUR WORSHIP AND READINGS Continued

Our Online Service will take the form of a Live Stream from the 10:00am morning service. This can be watched on our Church Facebook page: facebook.com/LongridgeCofE

The readings that will feature in these services are listed below.

For those of you who wish to follow the liturgy of the broadcasts, service sheets are downloadable from our Website: www.stlawrencewithstpaul.org.uk under the 'Resources'

4th August — Trinity 10 — Northern Saints— St. Wilfred

10am St Paul's Holy communion with Children's Church

James 1: 2-8 Matthew 5 : 1-12 6:30pm St Lawrence's (Evensong)

Psalm 88 James 1: 2-8 Matthew 5 : 1-12

11th August — Trinity 11 — Following Jesus –The Road to Emmaus

10 am St Pauls All Age Worship 6.30pm St Lawrence's Holy Communion

Exodus 13: 17-22 Exodus 13: 17-22 Luke 24: 13-32 Luke 24: 13-32

18th August — Trinity 12 — Following Jesus – Give me this water

10am St Paul's Holy communion with Children's Church 6.30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Exodus 14: 19-29

Psalm 100 John 4: 3- 15 Exodus 14: 19-29

John 4: 3- 15

25th August — Trinity 13 — Following Jesus –Do you want to get well

10am St Paul's Holy communion with Children's Church 6.30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Exodus 15: 22-27 Psalm 116

John 5: 1–8 Exodus 15: 22-27

John 5 : 1– 8

1st September— Trinity 14

10am St Paul's Holy communion with Children's Church 6.30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Song of Solomon 2:8-13 Psalm 119 v 1-16

Mark 7: 1-8, 14, 15, 21-23 Song of Solomon 2:8-13 Mark 7: 1-8, 14, 15, 21-23

Thanksgiving for the Birth of a Child, Baptisms, Marriages

Arrangements for these should be made with Rev. Simon or via the Church website Do you know anybody who is in hospital or ill at home? If so, please let Rev. Simon know so that they may be visited.

FUNERALS

We commend to God those who have died recently and pray for those who mourn their loss



Dieter Myers

Margaret Cryne



The Last Word

From the Curate—Rev. Simon King



We are family

The second book in the Bible is called Exodus. In it you will find the story of how a tribe of people, and some hangers on, are freed from slavery in Egypt. They

are led by God, and Moses, through the Sinai Desert to Canaan, the promised land. What is surprising about that journey is that the distance between Egypt and Canaan is only 250 miles. If you or I were to walk it, it would probably take about 11 days, give or take the odd watering hole. Yet, for this tribe, it took 40 years to cross that wilderness.

Numbers in the Bible can be tricky, but even allowing for exaggeration or understatement, and the lack of Google Maps, that's a lot of aimless wandering. Some people, who think hard about these sorts of things, surmise that the point of the pointless meander is that God is preparing this tribe to be His nation. Build reliance, create distinction. I think that it suggests God has always been way more interested in community than progress. For God, family is a journey not a destination.

At a recent service, our church community highlighted the importance of family, by drawing self-portraits (pictured) and hanging them side by side on the walls of St Paul's Church. A simple act of communion to remind us that Jesus said we were his family.

Of course, he didn't mean that we all are going to get a big house and go and live together, I mean who would do the laundry or the cooking or the washing up, but he did mean that we should look after each other and care for one another, just as you would a real brother or sister or mother. More than that he also meant that we should stick together, even when we don't agree, or fall out.

In the summer months some fortunate people will be planning their own exodus as they head off for their holidays. Be that a tent in Wales, an Airbnb in Torquay, a caravan in Scotland, or a hotel on the Costa's. Wherever your tribe is heading off to, I pray that you all have less travel delays than the Israelites, and that freed from the slavery of the daily routine, spending time relaxing, playing sports, or simply having fun, will bring you closer together.

God's tribe, the Israelites, took God with them on their Exodus. He manifested His presence in a tent called the tabernacle, a portable sanctuary, built by Moses. It was always set up in the middle of the campsite, a place of worship and a reminder that God was neither aloof nor distant, he was never far away from them. Just as He will be close to you and your tribe wherever you roam this summer.



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