



What's on....

St. Peter's:

Sunday 10th Sept

- 10.00am Interregnum Prayer
- 10.30am Morning Celebration and Kids Church
- 7.30 for 8pm Overflow
With Alwyn Ernshaw

Monday

- 1.30pm Tinkers

Tuesday

- 7pm Live Play

Wednesday

- 5am Revival Prayer
- 10am Treasure Hunting

Thursday

- 2pm-4pm Thursday Fellowship

Saturday

- 10am -12pm Pop In
- 10am -12pm Healing Centre

Sunday 17th Sept

- 10.00am Interregnum Prayer
- 10.30am Morning Celebration and Kids Church

St. Paul's

Sunday 10th Sept

- 8.30am Communion by Extension
- 10.30am Morning Service with Baptism

Tuesday

- 10.00am Quiet Space

Sunday 17th Sept

- 8.30am Morning Communion
- 10.30am Coffee and prayer
- 6.30pm Evening Communion



The Season of Harvest

How fitting that we should be about to interview candidates for our new Vicar at the start of the Harvest Season! It is a time when we reap what we have sown and give thanks for the abundance of blessings that God has poured on us. As we approach the day of interviewing we are reaping the harvest of all the prayer, planning and preparation that started last November when Ray retired. All the hours of Interregnum Prayer in both churches and privately, the planning and production of the Parish Profile, the building of the vicarage and the many things which count as 'small stuff' such as the purchase of a new 'vicars chair' for the office and Eileen, Margaret and Caroline's sterling efforts smartening up the outside of the church, have been the ground work and sowing of the seed. Farmers needed to do their part in planting to be able to reap (Prov 6:8) and your prayers have been a vital part in nurturing and protecting the church while the seed grew, and we trust in the Lord in bringing it to completion. Like an expectant mother, we have had nine months of waiting, but rather than being a 'fallow time', the Interregnum has been a time of spiritual growth and blessing in our churches, when we have had some of our most powerful encounters with God and grown even closer together as a congregation.

Of course, great joy accompanied the harvest (Isa 9:3) and we trust and pray that there will be great joy when we appoint our new Vicar, although there will be a time of some adjustment as we hand over the reins! We are excited to see who God has in store for us, and what fruits will come from this Harvest.

This week: Steve is leading at St. Peter's, Andy is preaching . At St. Paul's Lorna is leading, Rev. David Scott is preaching and holding a baptism and David is leading worship. At Overflow we will be joined by Alwyn Ernshaw. Please pray for them as they prepare for the services.

We extend a warm welcome to the family and friends of Joseph Webb for his baptism at St Paul's.



Anchor 18-30s

My name is Bethany and I'm from Hope Community Church in Swanley. Since January, I've been running an 18s-30s group in our church called Anchors along with my sister Beki. How Anchors came about: I first approached Alwyn about this as, having returned from Liverpool where I had run a similar group, I noticed that there seemed to be a gap for this kind of group in the surrounding areas. Upon speaking to others in a similar age range, they felt the same with often people having to go to Orpington, Tunbridge Wells or Sevenoaks to find Christians/people their age. When we met, initially, as a group of 18s-30s from Hope Community Church, we agreed that we didn't just want it to be a group for HCC. We wanted it to have the following aims:

To be a group for other Christians of similar ages from different churches to come and meet up (we're not trying to poach anyone!)

To spread the word and love of God to people who aren't Christians in a similar age bracket

In January, we had 10 people come along to the group and now - regularly, we have 18-20 people in attendance. This includes some people who aren't Christians and 2 people have recently been on an Alpha course as a result of Anchors which is amazing news. We'd love to open this up to your church and anyone in this age bracket in your church

We're having a BBQ & Quiz on Saturday 23 September and we would love to invite anyone in that age bracket along to the event. Thanks, and if you could keep us in your prayers - that would be amazing!

Please pray:

Please pray for Audrey Rainer who is feeling very unwell.

The CVM Roadshow

On Tuesday 10th October in Tonbridge, Kent, we're hitting the road again with something we launched last year called The CVM Roadshow. And now's the time to book your place.

Enjoy a free drink, some nibbles, banter, fun and one or two fantastic stories!

The CVM Roadshow is a little taste of The Gathering and will be a great night out for everyone, which means female guests are MOST welcome too! We will also be looking back at what CVM has achieved to date and will share with you some of our plans for the future.

The CVM Roadshow will be hosted by CVM Director for England, Michael Cooper, along with our CEO, Nathan Blackaby.

So invite your...

- (a)Wife/girlfriend
- (b)Men's group
- (c)Church
- (d)All of the above

Or just simply book, come on your own and enjoy an evening of fun, relaxation and inspiration.

CVM Roadshow

Date: Tuesday 10th Oct

Venue: St Stephen's Church, 37 Waterloo Road, Tonbridge TN9 2SW

Time: 7.30 - 10.00pm

Cost...

£4 each (£6 from 10 Sept)

£7 each on the door

Thank you

Collect for Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty God, who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you; through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Curry Night

The next Men's curry will be on Wednesday 13th September from 7:30pm at the Shard. All welcome and please bring your mates along too.

Blessings

Dave

Book Stall

After many years' faithful service Wendy is stepping down from running the book stall in December. If anyone would like to take on this valued ministry, please see Wendy or contact the office.

Tea/Coffee Rota

Two volunteers are needed to replace Eve McFarlane and Chris Paris on the 2nd Sunday of the month starting 8th October. This is to serve coffee/tea after the service and is a bi-monthly duty. Please consider offering your time to this valued ministry and speak to Margaret Hammond.

Harvest Hymns of Praise

Our next Harvest Hymns of praise is on **23rd September at 3pm**. Are any of you wonderful people able to help in any of the usual ways!!!

lifts

sandwiches/cakes

preparing/serving tea etc

setting up/clearing up

music/singing

general help.

If you can please let me know. We are very grateful to you all.

If you know of anyone who might like to come along to Hymns of Praise please take them a flyer and let John and Lorna know. Many thanks.

A year in the life of Mote Park

Thursday 14th September

Thursday Fellowship have invited Simon Ginnaw who was the ranger at Mote Park Maidstone to give a talk on the wildlife and nature at the park and share his own experiences. He is an excellent speaker and if anyone would like to come and join us they would be most welcome. His talk will start at 3pm but you could come from 2pm for a cuppa and chat!

Simon is now the ranger at Riverside Country Park in Gillingham and an enthusiast young man for our environment.

Holiday in Blackpool

Holiday in Blackpool Report August 2017.

After a day of torrential rain while we set up the church for our event we wondered just what the following day would bring. Thankfully the sun shone on both days as we took our guests to a 'Holiday in Blackpool'. The Churches Together in Swanley and District held our annual Holiday at Home on the theme of Blackpool. Each year we host these 2 days at St Peter's Church in Hextable for 'older folk' who may not have the opportunity to get away on holiday. This may be due to financial situations, mobility problems or just simply having no one to go with. So we try to bring a touch of a holiday to them without all the stress and strain of having to organise it!

As usual we decorated the church in the theme and as we were going to Blackpool we made the platform area as the beach! Tarpaulin became the sea and our yellow carpet worked perfectly as the sand! With hundreds of shells some pebbles and boxes made like a sand castle it certainly looked very realistic. Added to all the beach memorabilia, deck chairs, towels, windbreaks etc we had (plastic) seagulls and thanks to the wonders of technology an enormous Blackpool Tower as a backdrop. We had the fairy lights on as well, which was our version of the illuminations! All to show that we were at Blackpool!!

Over the 2 days we had about 120 people come into the building, that included both guests and helpers. Both days began in a relaxed manner with

our guests arriving to a welcome cup of tea or coffee, a time to meet old friends and to make new ones. We began with Tim Jacob's Lighthearted quiz, which is always a great favourite. This time he planned questions based on Blackpool. Did you know that 500,000 ice-creams are sold there every year?! Bingo is also another favourite and was played on both mornings.

On Thursday we had a special treat for our guests as a surprise. Blackpool is famous for its donkeys and with the courtesy of Second Chance Animal Rescue, which is based in Crockenhill, two of their donkeys were brought for our guest to stroke and see. They grazed the grass outside the church and stayed for about half an hour to the delight not only of our guests but to the residents of Hextable who were lucky enough to see them!! We can honestly say that they 'stole the show'! How do you follow that?! Fortunately we had Pam Howard and her group 'Dance On' who performed 5 dances based on our theme, proving that you don't have to be young to enjoy dancing. As we were at 'Blackpool' the church became the famous Tower Ballroom and each of the tables were our Strictly judges! We had compiled a list of well know sentences from our Strictly judges 'Ten from Len' and FAB-U-LOUS) among them! We asked our guests to choose a sentence that summed up the dance. We had great fun.

On both days we were supplied by the Sutton Fish Bar from Sutton at Hone who brought us delicious and hot fish n chips or chicken and chips. Again a very popular meal even if not at the seaside!!

The afternoons were very relaxed, as we had provided various activities for the guests to participate should they wish to. Many were quite happy just to sit and chat, to have a good time of fellowship and enjoy being out from their homes. We kept them supplied with endless cups of tea so they were relaxed and 'chilled'! This will have built up their sense of well-being and morale.

Among activities offered were, craft, flower arranging, board games, puzzles, nail bar, hand massage, darts,

Lego and various reminiscence books and artefacts.

We finished both days with a 'hymns of praise' a time when we sing a few of our favourite hymns and have a time of reflection. It is always a lovely way to finish each day.

We were very pleased to welcome guests from Broad Oak Nursing home who were able to attend this year with their carers on Thursday. Four guests came in the morning and another four in the afternoon, being brought in a special wheelchair mini bus. They were delighted to be here and we understand how the day just lifted their spirits and morale.

On Friday we followed a similar format, which always proves successful. We welcomed back Steve Erickson and his wife Pauline, great friends and entertainer for our Holiday at Homes. Steve entertained us with his music and antidotes from his life and childhood. Steve and Pauline stayed on in the afternoon playing music and chatting to our guests. It was a very relaxed time.

We had also bought some DVD's of the Blackpool illuminations and the famous trams, which we kept running on a loop through the day and of course, Blackpool Rock!! Everyone took some genuine Blackpool rock home with them!!

We had several guests for whom it was their first visit and were so appreciative of what we had done. One guest said that it was the highlight of her year and that she was 'bowled over' by how helpfully everyone was and that nothing was too much trouble. It is when we hear all the positive comments and see the smiling faces at the end of the day that makes all the hard work in planning and organising worthwhile.

We are very grateful to the many people who have helped make this 'Holiday in Blackpool' such a successful event. To the wonderful team of helpers, those who gave lifts, made the delicious trifles, did the shopping, the flower arranging, the creative craft, the nail bar, hand massage and games. All those who helped set up and dismantle the decorations in the church, those who worked in the kitchen, served the teas, the music and the singing and all those who chatted and encouraged

and were just an extra pair of hands doing what was needed. The Holiday at Home could not run without these helpers from all our different churches, it is working together that also makes it so special.

Our thanks go to the following:

Linda Hogan Community Grant for their generous support.

Swan Paper Mill for the donation of tablecloths and napkins.

Sutton at Hone Fish Bar

Second Chance Animal Rescue

Blackpool Tourist Board for their support

Churches Together.

Dance On

Steve and Pauline Erickson

Tim Jacob

St Peter's church for the use of their premises and Sue Haward for her design of the poster and invaluable help with the photocopier!!!

To those who lent seaside memorabilia to help turn the church into the golden sands of Blackpool.

Above all we would give praise and thanks to our Father God for inspiring, equipping and enabling, we give thanks and glory to Him.

John and Lorna Kahan 2017.

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The Great Making Miracles Knit and Natter Session

Rochester Cathedral on Saturday 14th
October 2017

Supporting Baby Loss Awareness
Week

Making Miracles is a Kent and Medway registered charity which provides a full range of support services for ladies and their families experiencing "High Risk" pregnancies, premature birth or baby loss. We provide services like bereavement and trauma counselling, a buddying service linking someone who has been through a similar experience to someone who has just discovered there is a problem with their pregnancy, online and telephone support and much more. We also have a Baby Memorial Garden because if you lose a baby before 24 weeks you do not get a death certificate so you have no place or record of your lost

baby. At our garden parents may have a plaque or entry in our Book of Remembrance so that there is that permanent memory and record of their lost child.

To help pay for all the above we fundraise and we also have some amazing volunteers who give up one day every month to work on one of our community stalls to support us and where we sell baby items such as cardigans, blankets, toys and other things for babies which other volunteers have knitted for us. Every penny we raise from the sale of all our goods goes to fund the services we provide as we are all volunteers producing and selling the goods for these families.

We would like to invite you to come along on the above date at 10 am until 1 pm to help us knit as many 6 inch x 6 inch squares as possible in pink, blue, cream or white which will then be sewn together to make beautiful blankets for our stalls. If this is something you and anyone you know would be interested in doing PLEASE do come along as we would love to have as many "knitters" having a knit and natter session and make this the biggest group meeting in the UK for such a session. Please bring size 8 needles. If you are able and willing to make a start on those squares before the event please feel free to bring those with you too (cast on 30 stitches and knit 56 rows for your square please) as well as any other baby items you have made which we could also sell on our stalls.

We will also provide refreshments so it's important that we have a good idea of numbers (and we also need to let the Cathedral know!) and in order to achieve that I would ask that you email me sally@makingmiracles.org.uk advising me of the names of anyone that is attending to help us. Please do share this with friends and family and let's make this the biggest knitting session ever held!

With kindest regards

Sally Howells

Chairman

Leadership Team:

Sue Haward (Warden)
(01474 391119) – email:
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John Wigginton (Warden)
(669289)
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Glenn Walsh (Youth Minister)
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Maggie Carpenter
(660217) – email: maggie.ac@live.co.uk

Advisors to Leadership:

Steve Ball - (662320)

Ian Carpenter - (660217)

P.C.C.

Churchwardens: Sue Haward , John Wigginton

Youth Minister: Glenn Walsh

P.C.C. Members:

Treasurer: Chris Redmond (664226)

P.C.C. Secretary: David Pearson (666362)

Deanery rep: David Pearson (666362)

Maggie Carpenter (660217), Ian Carpenter (660217) Wendy Stoneham (668284), Mike Connold (382950) Lyn Moseley (669967) Gemma Turnbull (662320) Kim Faulkner (518162) Kevin Wren (619064)

Safeguarding officers: Andy Birmingham (668387) & Barbara Ball (665422) Sam Butler (Kindergarten)

Life Groups

Life groups are informal mid-week meetings for teaching, worship, prayer and mutual support. All groups meet on a rolling fortnight unless otherwise stated

TUESDAYS

Ken & Sylvia Grist,
51 St David's Road at 8pm (667748)

WEDNESDAYS

Meryl & Paul Wiggins,
40 Home Hill at 7.30pm (662957)

Lesley Pull,
St. Peter's Lounge at 10am (665101)

David and Jeanna Rebel
32 New Road at 7.45pm (01474393585)

Ian & Maggie Carpenter
32 Selah Drive 7.30 (660217)

THURSDAYS

Paul & Caroline Martin
45 St David's Road 8pm (615245)

David and Pauline Pearson
The Old Vicarage. 7.45pm (666362)

FRIDAYS

Lyn Moseley
St. Peter's Lounge 10am (669967)

