



ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



16th September 2021

Sunday Worship 19th September 2021
Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

09:45 Service of Holy Communion at St Paul's Scotforth Road

11:15 Service of Holy Communion at
St Paul's Hala Worship Centre

7:00pm Reflective Prayer Group
at St Paul's Scotforth Road Tuesday 21st September

Morning Prayer will be taking a break until October. It will resume in church on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings at 9am on 4th October.



***Worshipping God, Growing in Faith,
Serving the community***

A message from Reverend Claire:

On Thursday 2nd September, I was interviewed by a panel including +Jill, the Bishop of Lancaster, Rev Rebecca and others representing this parish and the diocese, for the permanent role of Pioneer Minister to the parish, with a focus on the Hala estate. I am thrilled to say I was offered the role and accepted.

On Friday 3rd September, I woke up with a renewed feeling of being 'home' in Scotforth and Hala. I reflected on how important this feeling is and acknowledged how unsettled I have felt for a season without it.

This post is initially for 5 years (which will be reviewed as we go) and my task is to encourage the planting and growth of new congregations in the Hala area. These new forms of church gatherings will be for those who do not currently find a place in church that feels like 'home' for them. Creating new ways to come together to worship opens new ways for people to come 'home' to Jesus and take their place as part of the diverse body of Christ.

The passage of scripture that God has been speaking to me through with regards to this role is Luke 5:1-11. This is the story of Jesus getting into Simon Peter's boat. Simon Peter and his crew had fished all night and caught nothing, but Jesus instructs them to lower their nets again, but this time in a specific place. They obey and catch such a large number of fish the nets begin to break. Simon Peter and his crew are amazed so pull up their boats on shore and follow Jesus.

After a long time of being in Hala as a church, Jesus is inviting us to lower our nets again in a new way, borrowing Jesus' phrase, 'to go fishing for people'. I recognise our need to listen to Jesus' direction of where and when to do that and to be prepared to welcome new people to come to faith in him. In all we do, we will continue to listen to, follow and obey Jesus... then watch to see what he will do that will amaze us and compel us to keep worshipping and following him.

Service Provision over the coming weeks:

As from Sunday 19th September we are going to reintroduce singing in church, slowly at first and under constant review, by singing one hymn. All our current guidelines will still be in place so mask wearing is encouraged and welcomed even whilst singing. Hymn books will be given out with service books and we would ask you to return them at the end of the service.

On Sunday 26th September we will be celebrating Harvest at both the 9.45am and 11.15am services and signing two hymns. Harvest is a fitting celebration day to reintroduce the 8am BCP Holy Communion service. We are also going to reintroduce the Primary and Secondary School 'Green Card' form signing on this day.

Shortly after this we are planning on reintroducing the Thursday morning service and after some more reflection on our provision, the 6.30pm service. News of when these will be reintroduced will be in the Parish News closer to the time.

Health and Safety over the coming weeks:

As we begin to reintroduce services we are going to maintain most of the good practice we have followed with the exception of introducing two seating options. At St Paul's Scotforth from Sunday 19th September we are going to re-open the central aisles and side aisle (organ side) so that you can sit where you feel comfortable. We will keep the side aisle (as you come into church by the old font) laid out for social distancing.

This means that there will be no requirement to contact the Parish Office on a Wednesday morning and that you can choose where you would like to sit. However, we all need to consider the feelings and apprehensions that most of us have and by asking a simple question “Do you feel comfortable with me sitting here next to you?” we can all learn to adapt to this new way of being together as a church family.

FOR OUR PRAYERS

Our mission Partners: Stephen and Marit Impey managing Wycliffe Bible Translators Ethiopian work, the work of Global Link and MIND (Lancashire).

From our Parish prayer diary: Chiltern Court, Hastings Road, The Hastings, Kensington Road

From our Church prayer diary: The Churchwardens

We pray for the parents, godparents and family of: Harry who is to be baptised this week

Those who have asked for prayers for healing: Mary Wilson, Eunice Parkinson, Marion Corkill, Katherine McHale, Eileen Slinger, Jacqueline Gothard, Maureen Thorpe, Rev Rebecca, Sheila Bellinger

All who mourn: Hazel Hodgson, and all those who have died due to the coronavirus

Collect for 19th September 2021:

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings for 19th September 2021:

Psalm 1

- 1 Blessed are they who have not walked
in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the assembly of the scornful.
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the Lord
and they meditate on his law day and night.
- 3 Like a tree planted by streams of water
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither,
whatever they do, it shall prosper.
- 4 As for the wicked, it is not so with them;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not be able to stand in the judgement,
nor the sinner in the congregation of the righteous.
- 6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall perish.

Mark 9.30-37

³⁰ They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; ³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, 'The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.' ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. ³³ Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the way?' ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, 'Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.' ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷'Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

**Readings for next Sunday:
Esther 7.1-6, 9, 10, 9.20-22; Psalm 124; James 5.13-end;
Mark 9.38-end**

A Message from Canon Anderson:

I am delighted and humbled by the appointment by Bishop Julian Henderson to be the *Honorary Canonry of Crostona* at Blackburn Cathedral. This distinct honour is in recognition of my continuing contribution to the life of the church locally in Blackburn diocese, nationally through various church institutions and the wider Anglican Communion. It is also noteworthy to mention that perhaps I am the first person from a Dalit Christian background belonging to the Church of South India being made an honorary Canon in the history of the Church of England. Along with Rebecca, Sundiya and Amali, and our families in Canada and India we are grateful to God for this blessing and look forward to continuing my service in Christ's name.

Our best wishes for Anderson!

Authorised Lay Ministers:

Please keep our wardens, Jayne and Tony, in your prayers this weekend as they are commissioned by Bishop Julian at a special service at the Cathedral this Saturday 18th September following completion of their training earlier this year.

Sunday 26th September - Harvest Services:

We will be celebrating Harvest on Sunday 26th September and if you would like to bring up 'Harvest Gifts' as part of the service this will be very much appreciated. Any canned/dried produce will be donated to The Olive Branch to assist them in their work in Lancaster.



Appeal for materials for a Prayer Wall Hanging:



We are looking for donations of pieces of material and bright, medium/large buttons to construct a prayer wall hanging for church similar to the one in the picture. If you have any items you could donate please can you pass them to Jayne or Jean Harrison – thank you.

Lancaster Priory Festival of Song:

The annual Priory Festival of Song runs from Saturday 11th September to Sunday 19th, with a vast array of concerts and services to attend. The theme of the week is ‘breaking forth into singing’ with plenty of opportunities for people to rediscover their voices after eighteen months with very little singing. Many of the events are free to attend and ticketed events have been capped at £6 to ensure as many people can access these concerts as possible.



The Saturday showcase events are fully participatory, with **Unseasonal Festival Voices** on Saturday 18th September at 7.30pm. This last concert will be a tour of the liturgical year where you get to sing lots of your favourite hymns accompanied by the Priory Choir and Orchestra. Christmas carols in September? Yes, please!

Further information, including details of how to book tickets, can be found on the Priory

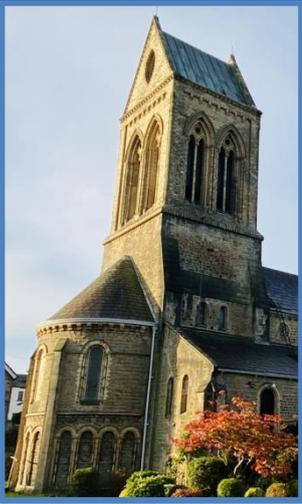
website: <https://lancasterpriory.org/concerts/september-2021-festival-of-song/>



Contactless Giving in Church is now available.

Our machine will be at the back of church so that on your way out, rather than giving a cash donation, you could consider giving by card

Church Tower Appeal:



If you would like to make a donation but don't have access to the internet then you can send a cheque to the Parish Office, St Paul's Parish Hall, Scotforth Road, Lancaster, LA1 4TS – please write 'Tower Appeal' on the reverse of the cheque. Or if you contact us then we can let you have our bank account details to make a BACs transfer.

Please tell your friends and family about our appeal. If you have any questions about how you can donate or the building project then please contact either Jayne or Tony via the Parish Office.



Parish Heritage Walk by Maureen Leach:

Our next walk will be on Sunday, September 19th when we will do a heritage walk round town visiting some of the places which are opening up for the Heritage weekend. Meet in the church grounds at 12.15 for a picnic lunch before setting off into town.

Please contact Maureen on 07531285199 for further information. or visit <https://visitlancaster.org.uk/whats-on/heritage-open-days-2021/>.

Submissions for the Parish News:

The deadline each week is Tuesday at noon but we can always add contributions to the following week's Parish News. We look forward to receiving your contributions and supporting each other in the Body of Christ during this time. Please email the parish office, leave a message on the answer machine for a telephone submission or post/leave an article for the Parish Office in the Parish Hall letterbox.

VICAR: Rev Dr Rebecca Aechtner –

Tel: 749693; Email: vicar@stpauls-scotforth.org

Rest day is Friday – if you have an urgent enquiry then please contact a Churchwarden.

PIONEER MINISTER: Rev Claire Cooke:

Email: Claire@stpauls-scotforth.org

Work days are Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday

WARDENS:

Mrs Jayne Weatherill:

Tel: 60597; Email: sjaynewweatherill@gmail.com

Mr Tony Walker:

Tel: 382397; Email: walkerar@hotmail.co.uk

PARISH OFFICE: The office is open Monday – Friday from 9.30am – 12 noon.

Tel: 01524 843135; Email: office@stpauls-scotforth.org

BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS: Booking enquiries - please contact the parish office or

Email: lifeevents@stpauls-scotforth.org

CHURCH WEBSITE:

<https://stpauls-scotforth.org>

FACEBOOK: regular updates about life at St Paul's can be found: @scotforthstpaulschurch

If you would like to financially support the mission and ministry of St Paul's Church then please visit our online giving page by clicking on the DONATE button on our website – <https://stpauls-scotforth.org> – thank you.

Fairtrade/Green Fair

Saturday 25th September, 10am-4pm
The Cornerstone, Sulyard St. Lancaster



FILM: 'GUARDIANS OF THE RAIN FOREST'

Showing every 30 minutes from 10.30am – 4.00pm

The 15 minute film shows how sustainable Fairtrade farming is working with naturalists to conserve and extend the Gola rainforest in Sierra Leone. The farmers are growing their own, as well as local market, food crops, and producing Fairtrade cocoa which is sold in the UK and Europe.

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CRAFT AID STALL and LOCAL CRAFTS

For more information contact Simon on 01524 840027

Ripley St Thomas C of E Academy - Admissions for September 2022: We are now taking bookings for Ripley St Thomas Church School Supplementary Forms to be signed. There will be two evenings – Tuesday 12th October and Thursday 14th October between 6.30pm and 8pm in the Parish Office. Please contact the office by telephone to make an appointment (9.30-12 noon Mon-Fri) or email at office@stpauls-scotforth.org , In order to make an appointment we will need the following information:

- Preferred date
- Your name
- Your child's name
- Your child's school
- Your contact telephone number

If you email for an appointment you will receive a confirmation email stating the date and time of your appointment. Please remember that you will need to bring your school admissions green card with you and the supplemental form you received in your RST prospectus pack. You will also need to bring your own pen to sign the form. We would like to request that only one parent attends the meeting in order to reduce any possible congestion in the parish hall.



LANCASTER DISTRICT BIG GREEN WEEK

CLIMATE CHANGE DISCUSSION - WHAT CAN WE DO?
DEMO - ELECTRIC CAR CHARGING
SEWING CAFE - MENDING WORKSHOP
CLAVER HILL TOUR - GROWING FOOD SUSTAINABLY

ECO CO-HOUSING TOUR
FORGEBANK, HALTON
PLASTIC RECYCLING TOUR
RELIC PLASTIC
GREEN SWAP SHOP
DORRINGTON ROAD PLAY PARK

APPLE DAY
MILLENNIUM ORCHARD
GREEN SPACES FORUM
LANCASTER UNIVERSITY
TREE WALK & LEARN
LANCASTER CITY

THERE ARE MANY OTHER EVENTS GOING ON ACROSS LANCASTER AND DISTRICT IN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY SPACES. CHECK OUT THE GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK WEBSITE OR TRANSITIONCITYLANCASTER.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION. EVENTS ARE STILL BEING ADDED!

WWW.GREATBIGGREENWEEK.COM

Impeys' Info



10th September 2021

Dear friends,

I had hoped to be able to report directly from Ethiopia in this letter. To write about visits with colleagues and friends, schools and village literacy classes. To pass on encouraging stories. To show impressive pictures. To tell you once again first-hand about our work in Ethiopia. As many Corona restrictions were relaxed in early summer it seemed possible to finally travel there again. But Ethiopia is struggling with much more than "just" Corona.

The news about the fighting in and around Tigray has been on most news channels since the end of last year. There are also several other smaller and not-so-small conflict areas, including locations where our projects take place, where our colleagues live and work. The time of uncertainty around the general elections is also not quite over. About one-fifth of the population could not vote in the first elections. The next round is due to take place in September. And the negotiations surrounding the construction of the Nile dam remain tense.

Since mid-July, no business visas have been issued for short term travel. Now, in early September, it seems that applications are possible again and so I hope to finally be able to travel to Ethiopia in October once again. Eventually!

Missed targets – A look behind the numbers

In our projects, we set ourselves many goals and targets that we aim to achieve together with the local communities. One of these is to significantly reduce the number of school dropouts through the introduction of teaching in the mother tongue. Normally, this is always achieved because the children's interest in attending class and the parents' willingness to send their children to school increases notably when the teacher speaks the same language as the children. But this year we won't be achieving this goal. Headmaster Matewos Kebede explains why:



Steve at home, at work





The last year and a half has been full of big problems. Two of these problems are Corona and the unrest in our area. Because of the tensions, many families had to leave their homes, in a hurry. They probably will never return. And because of Corona, the schools had to stay closed for seven months. After that, I went from door to door with other community leaders to tell the parents to send their children back to school. But many did not as they were still afraid; both of the unrest and of Corona. In the whole district, suddenly more than half of the children were school dropouts.

In addition to Headmaster Matewos' report, we know that many parents have also kept their children at home for the remainder of the school year. They reason that it is better for them to repeat the school year rather than continue with a seven-month gap in their learning. They clearly lack the material to simply continue as normal. We were able to agree with our project sponsors to keep our focus on the people and their context, instead of pushing for high numbers. We hope, pray and continue to work together to bring some normality back in the coming school year.

Family fun

At the end of July, Marit, Lisa, Dan and Steve were able to enjoy a five-day break camping on the coast in southern Denmark. At the same time Ben was busy with an internship and Ellen was visiting her boyfriend in Saxony. The following week we dropped Dan in Hamburg to start a year of voluntary service at a special needs school and met up with Ben and Ellen again on the family camp "Zeltstadt" in central Germany. This has been a regular event for us as a family since 2011 and is always a great time to recharge the batteries with seminars, workshops and relaxing times in community – again this year despite all the Corona restrictions.

Now, at the beginning of September, Ellen is getting used to life in the sixth form, Dan is enjoying school without homework 😊, Lisa is commuting daily across Hamburg to her internship with the Red Cross and Ben is looking forward to being back at Uni in Aberdeen. After nine months of living here with us, he flew back this week.

For your prayers

- Ask God for peace and reconciliation for the people of Ethiopia, especially in and around Tigray. Pray for peace and national unity.
- Ask God for a solution to the visa issues. Pray that Steve and other foreign colleagues will be able to re-enter Ethiopia as soon as possible.

Thank you for all your support and with love from us all

Marit & Steve Ben Lisa Dan Ellen

Stephen & Marit Impey

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Donations

Please always contact the Wycliffe centre stating that your donation is in support of the Impey family, household number **239376**.

Wycliffe UK is a registered charity and supports Gift Aid. If you would like to Gift Aid your donation, Wycliffe will provide the forms.

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If you prefer not to receive our letters in future or prefer them by post or would like our prayer letters as well, please let us know. Please check with us before passing this letter on to others and do not publish it on the internet.