



THE UNITED BENEFICE of ST LUKE'S, ENDON with ST CHAD'S, BAGNALL

Encounter, Encourage, Enable ...Committed to Sharing God's Love

www.endonstlukes.org.uk

Vestry (church office): 01782 502166 or 07517 653370



October 2023

INTERREGNUM Month 40



volunteers are needed once again for

‘GREET AND TREAT’

Tuesday 31st October

With many youngsters out and about on Hallowe'en Night we will be handing out 'Hope' bags again from UCB and inviting them back to the Chapter House for hot chocolate and marshmallows.

If you are available to tour the streets or to make drinks and welcome folk, please meet at church at 6.00pm.



**REMEMBER TO PUT YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE
HOUR ON SATURDAY NIGHT
OCTOBER 28th or late for church you will be!**

OCTOBER at ST LUKE'S

1st SUNDAY

**9.15am HOLY COMMUNION –
Rev Philip**

11.00am No CONNECTIONS

8th SUNDAY

**9.15am MORNING WORSHIP –
Barrie / Roger**

11.00am CONNECTIONS

15th SUNDAY

**9.15am HOLY COMMUNION –
Fr David Nicol**

11.00am CONNECTIONS

22nd & 29th SUNDAYS

**9.15am MORNING WORSHIP –
Barrie / Roger**

11.00am CONNECTIONS



Sunday at 11am
at St Luke's CE Academy,
Leek Road in the school hall.

THIS IS A FAMILY-FRIENDLY SERVICE

lasting about 40 minutes followed
by games for the children and
refreshments.

OCTOBER at ST CHAD'S

1st SUNDAY

**10.45am HARVEST FAMILY SERVICE - KH
w team followed by Harvest Lunch**

8th SUNDAY

10.45am PRAYER & PRAISE – KH / MF

15th SUNDAY

10.45am HOLY COMMUNION – Rev BW

22nd SUNDAY

**10.45am HOLY COMMUNION – Bishop
Matthew – to include licensing of Kath
as lay minister**

29th SUNDAY

10.45am MEMORIAL SERVICE – KH

See p12 for more St Chad's notices.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18th

We celebrate Luke, our patron saint.

ST LUKE'S CHURCH OFFICE

Unless involved with funeral duties
Barrie mans the office on Mon, Wed,
and Fri from 10.30am to 1.00pm using
07517 653370. During these times the
church is open for private prayer.

ECUMENICAL MIDWEEK SERVICES on WEDNESDAYS

Holy Communion at 9.15am

Oct 4th at St Luke's

Oct 11th at Methodist Church

Oct 18th at St Luke's

Oct 25th at Methodist Church

AN IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING OUR GIVING

...as we seem to be edging relentlessly towards a cashless society

Sheila H writes...



Each week there is a dedicated team at St Luke's who count the donations and fees received during the week and the money is then paid into our account.

There used to be a TSB branch in Leek but, like many others, that has closed. Our nearest branches are now in Hanley or Biddulph.

Since the Leek TSB branch closed we have been able to pay the money into

any Post Office and I usually go to Stockton Brook. It's the most convenient and the staff are delightful.

However the TSB have now put a limit on the CASH we can deposit via the Post Office in any one year. There is no limit on cheques (yet) and no limit on direct payments into our account.

I ask for your help in the one of the following ways...

1. If you pay tax and have a weekly envelope could you make the payment by cheque? As cheques create a lot more paperwork it would be helpful if you could write 1 cheque to cover each month (remembering that 4 months of the year are 5 weeks long).
2. Another way to avoid TSB's cash limit if you pay tax would be to set up a Standing Order with your bank to pay directly into our account. This could be done every 4 weeks (e.g. if your donation is £10 a week your Standing Order would be £40 every 4 weeks). If you prefer to pay monthly don't forget there are 4 months in the year that have 5 weeks in them (e.g. if your donation is £10 a week your Standing Order would need to be £43.34 a month).
3. If you DO NOT pay tax or do pay tax and have not yet signed a Gift Aid declaration form I can only claim Gift Aid on cash in the collection bag, on the open plate at the back of church and on cash in the wall safe. Please don't write a cheque or set up a direct transfer as I would no longer be able to claim gift aid on those donations.

Please see me if...

- you decide you could help in one of the above ways.
- you pay tax but haven't signed a gift aid form yet.
- you need our account details to set up a Standing Order.
- you have any queries or comments.



ENDON FUN DAY

Well done folks!

Thank you to all who supported St Luke's cake stall at the village hall at the Endon Fun Day on Saturday 9th September.

Thanks also to all who supplied cakes and those who manned the stall.

A total of **£123.80** was raised.

PASTORAL TEAM (Phone nos on back page)

- **HILLSWOOD LODGE CARE HOME** Although there is limited space in the lounge volunteers are welcome to help boost the singing. There is room for 6 or 7 of us. **The next dates are Wednesdays October 18th, November 15th and December 29th at 11.00am.** Please inform Shirley or Rev Patricia if you are able to come. The residents really do enjoy these services and the chats afterwards.
- **WALKS followed by refreshments:** Next walk **Thursday, September 28th.** Meet at Holly Bush, Denford for walk to tunnel pool along the canal at 10.30am.

The Methodist Church



- **Every Sunday 10am Worship 1st Oct HARVEST**
- **Monday 10am – 1.30 Community Café**
(not bank holidays)
- **Wednesday 9.15 Holy Communion**
Alternately with St Luke's Parish Church
- **Thursday 10.30 Fit-as-a-fiddle**
Exercise, conversation and coffee
- **Thursday October 19th 2pm – 3.30pm Bereavement Café**
- **Fridays 10am – noon Carers' Café**
October 14th an activity
28th tea and chat

*Further information from
Rev Eleanor Smith
Eleanor.smith@methodist.org.uk*

- **Friday 6pm 'Blast' – youth club for 7-11 year olds** (during term time from September 8th)



CANDLE DEDICATIONS for OCTOBER

For £2.50 you can keep the Candle of Hope or the Sanctuary Light burning for a week with a dedication. **Please contact Shirley Brindley on 504089 if you would like a particular date.**

Oct	CANDLE OF HOPE	SANCTUARY LIGHT
1 st	Maureen Foster to celebrate the birthdays of granddaughter Emily and grandson Joe	Ann Boulton to celebrate Emma's birthday (6 th)
8 th	The candle is kept burning by Marilyn Plant	Barrie Jackson in celebration of Amy's birthday
15 th	Sheila and Stan to celebrate the birthday of their granddaughter Bethany (20 th)	The candle is kept burning by Lyn Pickering
22 nd	Anon	Sheila and Stan to celebrate the birthday of their granddaughter, Anne (26 th)
29 th	Sheila and Stan to celebrate the birthday of their son Paul (31 st)	The candle is kept burning by Marilyn Plant

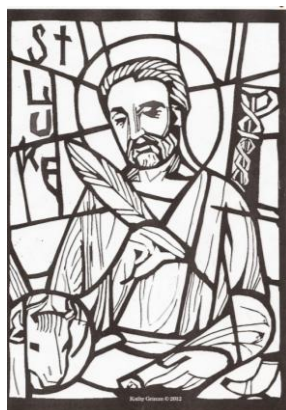
Happy Birthday!



OCTOBER GREETINGS to

George Rigby (2nd), James Porter (4th),
Emma Greatbach (6th), Mabel McGrath,
Robert Brindley (13th), Bethany Salt (20th),
Chris Sproston (30th), Paul Hurst (31st)

If you would like your own or a family birthday included here please contact Ros 504137



October 18th is St Luke's Day Let's Celebrate our Patron Saint!

We have Luke to thank for much of the account of Our Lord's birth which is not recorded either in Mark's or John's gospels. From his Book of Acts we also learn a great deal about the growth of the Early Church, the problems faced by the apostles, the first missionary Paul as well as an account of the death of Stephen, the first Christian martyr and much more.



Come follow Christ in the footsteps of St Chad

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES

Following a recent review, the work of Transforming Communities Together has been integrated into the Diocese of Lichfield. The newly named **Strengthening Communities** team brings all its experience to the diocesan team working to resource parishes, building on the 'Shaping for Mission' process. It's our mission to support your church as you live out your mission to respond to human need by loving service and to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation. These are the third and fourth [Marks of Mission](#), goals set by the worldwide Anglican church. Half of our small team is dedicated to enabling all who live with some kind of physical or mental impairment to fully live in their communities and help others to understand how to offer support. One of those colleagues is specifically dedicated to families that live with dementia.

One way that we can work with you, is through the **Places of Welcome** network. Places of Welcome is a growing, national network of 'drop in' hospitality run predominantly by volunteers who want to make sure that everyone in their area has a place to go to see a friendly face, enjoy a free cup of tea and a good conversation, if and when they need it. Together with my colleague, Lesley Bovington we support over 175 Places of Welcome teams throughout Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent, the Black Country and northern Shropshire. Two thirds are faith-based, with others being hosted in community centres, libraries and even community gardens. Most recently Stoke City football club has opened one at their stadium.

Our guests talk about the difference Places of Welcome make to their lives. Chris, a regular visitor to Woodside Internet Centre Place of Welcome, said:

"Being bipolar in the past I've often found it easy to isolate myself. In an attempt to tackle this going forward I received a referral to Woodside community centre and started engaging with the staff and projects there. This led me to participating in the internet café at Woodside church and eventually assisting with the upkeep of the IT equipment and networking as a way to give back to a group that was both open and accepting when I first arrived. I have also found that having a regular commitment that involves helping others is also a good motivational tool as part of my own mental health regime."

Places of Welcome connect with and strengthen their local communities in many ways, including:

- Providing safe, accessible, friendly spaces where the vulnerable and socially isolated can go, without the pressure of registration processes, commitment, or cost.
- Providing supportive, gentle, social space for the cared-for and their carers.

- Signposting those in need to other services and acting as information hubs.
- Connecting with local social prescribers, community mental health teams, PCSOs, social services, local councillors, social housing providers, etc.
- Encouraging their guests, at their own pace, to take part, for example by joining in with activities, by helping, by sharing their talents and knowledge.
- Providing a place to engage and empower all, where local voices can be heard and where support services and solutions can be better shaped, as a result.
- Churches supporting one another, across the Places of Welcome networks.

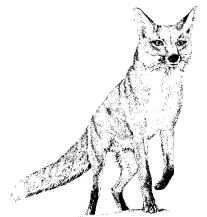
Carrie Blount is the Strengthening Communities Enabler, and Places of Welcome Facilitator role for the Black Country area - carrie.blount@lichfield.anglican.org 07377 918101 and website – lichfield.anglican.org/strengthening-communities. The team is also on social media at facebook.com/placesofwelcomeSC23, twitter.com/TCTrealchange and instagram.com/makingrealchangehappen/

There is also a national website for Places of Welcome: placesofwelcome.org.uk



Spying on your secret visitors!

Would you like to know what creatures visit your local churchyard when no one is about? How about setting up a simple camera trap to find out. These can be purchased at specialist suppliers – the Natural History Book Service or NatureSpy for example, costing between £100 and £200. Perhaps a cluster of churches could buy one together?



To set up a trap, first find your location. It needs to be low to the ground so as to pick up small animals such as hedgehogs. Short grass is best, to avoid waving vegetation which will set off the camera which is activated by movement. The camera itself needs to be attached to something robust such as a tree, pole or building. Find a relatively secluded place where it is unlikely to be noticed by visitors, these cameras tend to be in camouflage colours and are rarely spotted, particularly if surrounded by vegetation or deadwood. Try to locate the camera in a place that animals are likely to use, along the line of a hedge or wall for example. Placing the camera to face a shallow dish with water in it might reveal many creatures stopping for a drink or a bathe, particularly in hot weather. You may even put out some food such as cat food or peanut butter to attract hungry visitors!

There is plenty of information on using camera traps on the internet, a little research will help you choose the right one for you. Once in place the camera will need checking and the video footage or photos can be downloaded and batteries recharged. Seeing what has visited is great fun, particularly enjoyable for people who might have reduced mobility so are less able to watch wildlife directly. Of course once purchased the camera need not only be used within your churchyard, it will shed light on the wildlife to be found in other churchyards or cemeteries, in gardens, school grounds and other locations, particularly at nighttime. You might expect to see birds and mammals such as mice, voles and squirrels.

Foxes are likely visitors and hedgehogs cover a large area in the night so may well stop by, particularly if you are offering something tasty to eat!

If you do run a camera trap, please have a go at using the footage to make biological records via iNaturalist or iRecord, that way we can build a better picture of how important churchyards are for wildlife, and churchyard management can be tweaked to support the animals that you discover, many of which may depend on this special place.

All the best, Harriet Carty

Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor, harriet@cfga.org.uk,

www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk - individuals and groups in the diocese receive 20% members discount on all CfGA materials. Use the discount code **diomem22**



Lindsey writes...

I do hope that you are all managing to keep your spirits up as I look out on yet another wet and grey day. I've just shared a post on our Facebook page for a pantomime at the beginning of August – it feels strangely appropriate with the way the weather is behaving. We have seen quite a busy start to the school holidays, with the figures for July as follows (2022 figures in brackets):

Total vouchers fulfilled	= 97 (74)
No. of Adults fed	= 144 (103)
No. of Children fed	= 73 (74)
Total no. fed	= 217 (177)

Donations through the month have been helped enormously by three separate food drives I have done with our volunteers. Two of these days were at Sainsbury's and the third at Morrison's. Over the three days we received a huge 795.3kg of food and over £100.00 in cash donations. This is another reminder that we live in a wonderfully generous and supportive town. So, I send a massive thank you to all the volunteers who give up their valuable time, and to all the amazing people who give so freely.

Alongside our butcher's vouchers and Sainsbury's vouchers, we have now started to keep a supply of Farmfoods vouchers for distribution to our clients. This was a suggestion by the husband of one of our Team Leaders, who, when walking past the shop, remarked on how good the prices are – an indication of the level of commitment and interest our volunteers – and their families – have ! - and is another initiative on our part to try to ensure that our clients are able to enjoy a varied and nutritional diet.

We continue to receive fresh fruit and vegetables from our green fingered volunteers, but also from Aldi through the distribution of their surplus "out of date" food. In addition, we are purchasing a freezer, which will enable us to collect any frozen surplus goods from supermarkets, for secure onward distribution to our clients.

One of the most pleasing things for me in July has been the way in which we have expanded the in-house advice services available to our clients. The drop-in session by the Social Prescribers, Sarah, Leanne and Amanda, has been so amazingly valuable and I'm really hoping that resources will enable it to continue for the foreseeable future. And we also now have Suzie Noble, from Adullam Housing, coming in every Friday to assist with any housing related issues. Having these professionals in alongside Matt from Citizens Advice really does enable us to provide a substantive package of help and support to anyone coming to us for food.

I continue to try to spread awareness of the Foodbank and the services that we offer, with an interview on Leek Radio in July, and I will be appearing on Churnet Sound. There are two key messages that I want to share. Firstly, that we are here to help anyone in need, which I think is particularly important at the moment, as, with the increase in interest rates, we are likely to be seeing a lot more people who are in work and are homeowners. There is a misconception amongst some that you have to be unemployed and on benefits in order to be able to obtain food from us, and I want to make it clear that this is not the case. And, secondly, to encourage anyone who feels that they do have spare resources, to consider donating to us, to help us to meet the increasing demands on our services.

Our shopping list remains the same, with everything in pretty short supply, so any donations will be very gratefully received, thank you. We have now added pasta to the list, which is the first time in my 5 years at the Foodbank that this has happened.

Longlife semi-skimmed milk	Fruit squash	Cereals
Pasta sauce	Sponge puddings	Tinned tomatoes
Tinned vegetables	Tinned rice pudding	Coffee
Instant mash	Rice	Tinned meat
Tinned potatoes	Tinned fish	Tinned fruit
Tinned soup	Custard	Biscuits/snack bars
Ketchup/brown sauce	Pasta	

Household cleaning products:

Washing up liquid
Multi surface cleaner
Cleaning cloths/sponges
Laundry liquid/capsules/powder

Toiletries:

Shampoo and conditioner
Shower gel and soap
Toothpaste and toothbrushes
Deodorant
Razors and shaving foam

Babies:

Nappies – all sizes PARTICULARLY NEED SIZE 2 AT THE MOMENT
Nappy bags
Wet wipes
Baby shampoo and bath lotion
Cotton wool
Talcum powder

If you are a donor, please try to deliver your donations at the Foodbank on Tues and Fri between 10.00 am and 12 noon – as it gets very busy with clients after this time.

Alternatively, you may use any of our Permanent Collection Points which are still available at various locations listed on our website <https://leekdistrict.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>. We are also able to collect any large donations - please contact the Foodbank to arrange this.

If any of you would like to discuss anything relating to the Foodbank or arrange a visit, please contact me at projectmanager@leekdistrict.foodbank.org.uk or on 07916 005064. We continue to welcome corporate volunteers, school groups and individual volunteers, and we are always very happy to show people around and share with them the work we are doing. Love, best wishes and blessings to you all.

Lindsey Stockton, Project Manager

NEXT COLLECTION at St Luke's and Connections Sunday October 1st



FLOWER & CRAFT CLUB

The next meetings:

Wednesdays

11th October

8th November

6th December

**in the Chapter House
from 1pm to 3pm.**

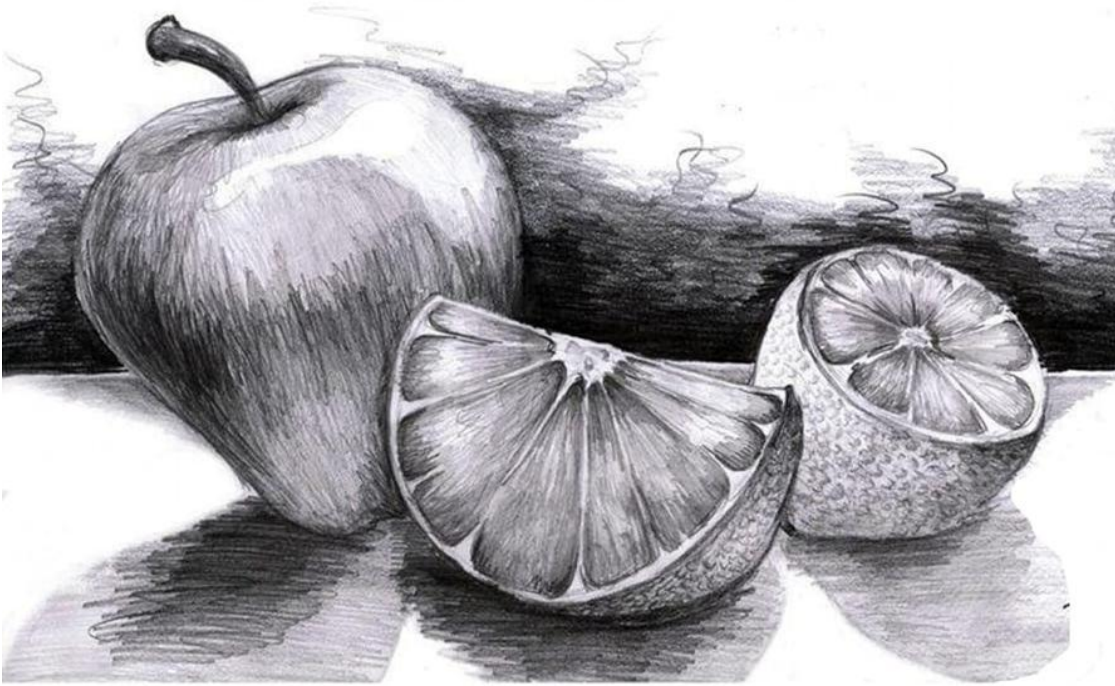
Pauline and Jeanette will be demonstrating an arrangement for the October meeting but please bring your own choice of flowers, foliage and container for this session. All welcome.

It was great to meet on 13th September for the first time since June.

After the summer break members designed their own arrangements and were then treated to 2 demonstrations from Pauline. Both used the triangular form but while one was mainly foliage and pedestal size, the second was much smaller and was taken to Sylvia Bradshaw as a get-well gift.



An Art Club...a new community initiative for St Luke's!



Sue writes....

There has been a phenomenal response to the new Art Club idea and the first session is oversubscribed.

Ideas about what people would like to cover will be incorporated into the long-term plan.

We'll also be discussing ways to include more people. Keep your eyes open for further information. There is now a waiting list!

The first meeting will be on
Saturday,
30th September
from 10.00 to 12.00
in the chapter house.

The leader is Nicola Shipley. Please bring a sketch pad and pencils; Nicola will demonstrate techniques for drawing still life and will be very encouraging to those who feel they have no talent in this area! A £2 donation will cover tea, coffee and biscuits. There is a limit on numbers due to space so please book your place via the sign-up sheet; bring a friend who doesn't come to church perhaps. You don't need to come every time and can book on to sessions that interest you.

For any further information please contact Sue on 07854 043187.

CHILDREN'S ART CLUB

As part of our outreach, we plan to hold a termly children's art club on a Saturday morning from 10am to 11am. The Autumn term meeting will be on 21st October.

ST CHAD'S SPECIALS

25th September & 3rd October – Safeguarding foundation training in the evening led by Claire and Kath

1st October – 10.45am FAMILY HARVEST FESTIVAL followed by lunch with guest speaker Lindsey Stockton, Leek Food Bank Project Manager.

29th October – 10.45am MEMORIAL SERVICE



INVITATION from Rev Patricia:

- If you are single or live alone you are invited to supper at 31 Hillswood Drive on **Saturday 21 October** at 18.00. Please let Patricia know you are coming (numbers needed for catering) and also whether you have any dietary requirements or need a lift. Text or phone on 07854 418 488.

BIBLE STUDIES:

- After a gap of over 3 years bible studies are beginning again! On the Monday following the first and third Sundays there will be the opportunity to meet and discuss the Bible readings on the sheet that week. Keep your Readings Sheet and bring it with you. Meet at 19.30 at Claremont, St George's Avenue (home of James and Ros). The first meeting will be on **October 2nd**. All are welcome. If you need a lift or can offer a lift to someone please let Rev Patricia know.



YOUR FAVOURITE HYMNS

Rev Patricia writes...

Please will you let me know if there are any hymns you would like to sing in church that are not in Mission Praise. We are making a leaflet with the words of these hymns so that we don't have to keep printing them out. Work is underway. Ideas continue to come in for hymns and the new sheet is being produced. You can speak to me at church, call or text 07854 418 488 or email pmrobinson51@gmail.com

A LOOK AHEAD

Toy Service: Following discussion at the last PCC it was decided that toys and toiletries collected this year should be offered to Leek Salvation Army and to Leek Food Bank.

October Prayer Focus

- Many thousands experiencing dire living conditions and deep sadness having lost loved ones as a result of the recent severe flooding in Libya and the earthquake in Morocco as well as aid agencies trying desperately to help
- Thankfulness for the rescue of children and teachers from a stranded cable car in a remote area of Pakistan
- Inhabitants of the Hawaiian island Maui devastated by wild fires and those in danger of wildfires in British Columbia.
- Southern European countries and California also suffering widespread effects of fire and searing heat
- Parts of Ukraine devastated by bombing and the people affected
- The serious consequences of shipments of grain being prevented from reaching their destinations, especially the African countries
- Those taken prisoner by the Russians
- An end to the war
- Recent serious concerns about the growth of Artificial Intelligence and its influence on all our lives
- Safe passage for those caught up in the current fighting in Sudan and an end to the conflict
- King Charles III and all working members of our royal family
- The recent upsurge of violence in Northern Ireland
- The current threat from China and N Korea supporting Russia in the war in Ukraine
- The threat to Taiwan from China
- Those in Turkey, Afghanistan and Syria still in desperate need after devastating earthquakes
- All the aid agencies and volunteer recovery teams
- Our NHS
- Climate change and that the COP27 conference will bear fruit
- Those affected by the severe floods and landslides and those trying to help them
- Those seeking justice for women in Iran and regime change
- For those on low incomes in the light of the rise in energy bills
- Organisations striving to get aid into Afghanistan where women have been banned from working as aid workers
- East African countries on the verge of famine
- The problem of people-trafficking across the Channel and those seeking asylum
- All hostages in Iran awaiting release especially Morad Tahbaz and Mehran Raoff
- Improved safety for women on our streets
- The huge problem of loneliness
- Refugees in Yemen and the US border with Mexico
- All suffering at the hands of deeply corrupt governments
- Loved ones in our parish who are currently unwell
- Our church wardens and worship leaders during the interregnum
- The future of our benefice after 3 years of interregnum
- Those affected by the recent upsurge in knife crime
- The widespread drug problem especially in Stoke-on-Trent
- Lou Macari's hostel for the homeless in Hanley
- The problem of the millions of plastic bottles afloat in our oceans and the tons of 'space junk' orbiting our planet
- All who have lost loved ones recently
- The Trussell Trust food banks still needed as much as ever

Roger Simpson, St Luke's warden / worship / PCC chair	01782 502006
Barrie Jackson, reader / St Luke's PCC Sec / Administrator (* tel no for church enquiries)	07510 074097 07517 653370*
Rev Philip Robinson (minister w Permission to Officiate)	07983 863372
Rev Patricia Robinson (organist, also minister w PtO)	07854 418488
Revs Philip & Patricia Robinson (landline)	01782 502448
Sue Forrester, Flower & Craft Club / Foundation gov / Safeguarding Officer / St Luke's Facebook	07854 043187
Deb Podmore, Connections / school chaplain	01782 773383
Sheila Simpson, St Luke's Electoral Roll Officer	01782 502006
Shirley Brindley, candle dedications / pastoral tm	01782 504089
Steve Dale, St Luke's treasurer	07894 098011
Sheila Hurst, St Luke's Gift Aid Sec / MU rep	01782 503622
Ros Benson, newsletter / St Luke's website	01782 504137
Kath Howell, St Chad's PCC chair / warden / worship leader	01782 304616
Julia Podmore, St Chad's warden / treasurer	07980 802121
Pat Saul, St Chad's PCC vice-chair / secretary	07973 863930
Muriel Finney, St Chad's worship leader	01782 302229
Peter Millard, St Chad's buildings / warden's team	01782 505338
Emma Ashworth, St Chad's warden's team	07861 730806
Claire Houston-Brown, St Chad's Safeguarding Officer	07779 667470
Sheila Tipper, St Chad's news contact	01782 534647

For the duration of the interregnum the newsletter is available on-line as a PDF attachment and on the church website.

Paper copies are available for those without internet access.

Please submit notices for our next newsletter to Ros Benson

by **Tuesday, October 24th 2023.**

either by e-mail jandrbenson@btinternet.com or phone 504137.



A SECTION OF CHURCH GARDEN Any volunteers?

We are looking for one or two people (or more) to take responsibility for the border which runs from the lych- gate to the church door on the left hand side. It needs general weeding and perhaps a few

bedding plants putting in. Let's make the approach to our church look pretty and welcoming. Speak to Barrie if you can help.