



**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



August 2021

INTERREGNUM Month 14



Connections
Community Church
Part of the Family of Churches in Endon

CONNECTIONS RETURNS

to St Luke's CE Academy

on Sunday August 8th

at 11.00am

ALL WELCOME

- Bring your own picnic -

**Volunteers needed for tea/coffee
and washing up**

AUGUST at ST LUKE'S

SUNDAY Aug 1st

**9.15am MORNING WORSHIP
led by Roger/Barrie**

SUNDAY Aug 8th

**9.15am MORNING WORSHIP
led by Roger/Barrie**

**11.00am CONNECTIONS in
school**

SUNDAY Aug 15th

**9.15am MORNING WORSHIP
led by Roger/Barrie**

11.00am CONNECTIONS

SUNDAY Aug 22nd

**9.15am HOLY COMMUNION
led by Rev Philip Swan**

11.00am CONNECTIONS

SUNDAY Aug 29th

**9.15am MORNING WORSHIP
led by Roger/Barrie**

11.00am CONNECTIONS

MIDWEEK SERVICES

**Wednesdays 9.15am
4th Aug at St Luke's MP
11th Aug Meth Ch HC
18th Aug St Luke's MP
25th Aug Meth Ch MP**

REMOVAL OF RESTRICTIONS

**Please see Church of England
guidance on pages 3 and 4
followed by responses from
both churches.**

ST LUKE'S ZOOM MEETINGS

11.00am COFFEE & CHAT on Fridays
(hosted by Neil Taylor). All welcome. Contact
Neil for further info re August.

CONNECTIONS say thank you!

Suzy Jordan has retired as worship
leader and a new worship leader is
required. Suzy received flowers,
chocolates and a card in appreciation of
her work.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY

This will not be running during August but will
resume in September.

ST LUKE'S CHURCH OFFICE

Unless involved with funeral duties, Barrie
mans the church office in the vestry on Mon,
Tues, Thurs and Fri from 10.00am to 1.00pm
using tel: **07517 653370**.

While the office is open the church is open for
private prayer. All enquiries relating to
baptisms, weddings and funerals should be
directed to Barrie.

CHURCH FUNDS

*Please bring your gift or envelope to church or
issue a cheque and post it to Sheila Hurst or set
up a monthly standing order or use the 'Just
Giving' link on St Luke's website. If you bank
on-line you could pay directly into the church
account by setting up Endon St Luke's PCC as a
new recipient*. (*Bank details from Steve Dale
or Sheila H. Phone nos back page.)*

THANK YOU to all our regular givers!

POST JULY 19th: CHURCH OF ENGLAND GUIDANCE

(followed by responses from both our churches)

MASKS: The Church of England does not instruct churches to enforce mask-wearing but advises: "Although it will no longer be a legal requirement to wear a face covering, the government has stated that it 'expects and recommends' that people wear face coverings in crowded and enclosed settings to protect themselves and others.

"Churches may well decide to continue to ask people to use them and/or to maintain social distancing, especially during busy events. Although such a request will not be legally enforceable it can be positioned as a way of easing the transition back towards pre-pandemic ways of worshipping whilst showing consideration for others."

SINGING : The Church of England has confirmed that "Yes, from 19th July singing and musical performances of all kinds are allowed in churches, including congregational singing, and choirs and worship groups can perform without legal limitations."

It warns that singing or raised voices can increase the risk and that ventilation, singing outside or wearing a face covering would limit the risk.

"Singing (and generally meeting) outdoors is a safer way of gathering, and where this is possible it could be a good alternative to meeting indoors."

Bell ringers are no longer restricted by social distancing either.

VACCINE STATUS : The C of E guidance says: *"It is not a requirement, nor is it appropriate, to ask people if they have been vaccinated."*

There is also no legal requirement to show the NHS track and trace QR code from Monday, churches "may still choose to...but you do not have to."

DIFFERENT SERVICES: The Church says different services could be held to accommodate different congregants' attitudes to Covid, for example a service with social distancing and a service without. It also recommends having different rooms, where possible, to separate those with different preferences.

The House of Bishops says: *"This is certainly an option, especially if your pattern of worship means you regularly hold multiple services on a Sunday. If you have multiple services one after the other (for example a 9am mass followed by a 10.30am sung service) bear in mind that because Covid 19 particles can remain the air you should have services with more measures before those with less, to minimise the chances of infection and give greater security to those who are continuing to act cautiously. Outdoor worship continues to be safer with regards to the virus spreading than indoor situations and where conditions and circumstances permit is a helpful option."*

CHILDREN: When it comes to children's activities, the Church says: *"There are no longer any legal restrictions on children and youth groups, and it is no longer required keep children in 'bubbles'. This applies in all contexts, wherever groups are meeting.*

"Sensible cleaning and hygiene practices such as hand sanitiser are still a good idea."

CATERING: Food and drink can be provided and church cafés can open with no restrictions in place, although masks are recommended in crowded places. This means 'bring and share' lunches can come back, or evangelistic events with food.

In addition to these specific recommendations, the House of Bishops has suggestions to help church goers who might feel anxious. It advises continuing to provide online worship, having the order of service online so people can download it and providing red, amber or green stickers to indicate someone's social distancing preferences.

ST LUKE'S RESPONSE

Following the publication of the latest guidelines from both the Government and the House of Bishops, we judge that it is too early to make any changes to our existing protocols at St Luke's. There will obviously be differing views within our church on how and when it is sensible to approach the easing of restrictions. To give us time to ensure that we canvass the views of as many of our congregation as possible, and also to take account of the need for certainty in the minds of those organisations which use our church, we recommend to PCC that we retain the existing arrangements for worship and use of the church, pending the outcome of these discussions.

***Roger and Barrie as Churchwardens
20th July 2021***

AUGUST AT ST CHAD'S

Aug 1st Family Service KH

8th Praise and Prayer KH/MF

15th Holy Communion

Rev B Wilson

22nd Praise and Prayer KH/MF

29th No service



**Kath Howell can be contacted on 01782 304616 or 07971 887039
or howsie07@btinternet.com**

ST CHAD'S RESPONSE

The outcome of the PCC meeting held on Monday 19th July 2021 –

Please note that this is for the safety of all our members. You will all be aware that the Government Step 4 or Freedom-day has now come into action. Having received an 8-page document from the Bishop outlining the church's response to the Step 4 plan the following decisions have been made:

Note: the important parts of the document are that the decision was for each Incumbent to make (with or without the PCC) because they have better knowledge of their own church and community but the advice is to air on the side of caution.

Obviously as we have no incumbent the responsibility for St Chad's lies with the Wardens and the PCC hence the Zoom meeting last night and the unanimously agreed decision that there will be no changes to the current restrictions within the church at this time.

We will review the situation again nearing the end of August, therefore

- *social distancing will remain*
- *masks to be worn inside the building*
- *everyone must sanitise hands on entering/leaving the building*

We feel this is appropriate for our members and we hope you appreciate the reasoning behind this decision. The only difference will be that we can sing with our masks on, though now it is legal!!

*God bless,
Kathryn*

SEPTEMBER AT ST CHAD'S

Sept 5th Family Service KH

12th Praise and Prayer MF

19th Holy Communion

Rev B Wilson

26th Morning Worship KH/MF



ENDON METHODIST CHURCH COMMUNITY CAFÉ

The community café will re-open on Monday 2nd August. Extra help is needed and volunteers will be most welcome.



Come follow Christ in the footsteps of St Chad

**AUGUST IS PERHAPS THE MONTH WE MOST ASSOCIATE WITH
OVERSEAS EXPERIENCES, AND REV'D PHILIP SWAN
RECOLLECTS SOME HOME-FROM-HOME MOMENTS**

Working with the Biggest Corporation in the World – the Church

Can you guess the source of this headline? It is in fact taken from a recent article in The Guardian which went on to say that even 'China Petro-Chemical, the largest corporation in the world with a labour force of around 1,190,000 employees, is still at least a thousand times smaller than this global movement'. In 2020 there were an estimated 2.4 billion Christians, making up approximately a third of the world's population.

We are accustomed to receiving global news instantly and the current pandemic and the climate crisis underline our interdependence with everyone on this planet. And yet many of us find it hard to see the bigger picture. Milton Jones, a comedian who is something of an expert in humorous one-liners and a recurring guest panellist on 'Mock the Week' suggested poignantly that "The biggest question the church is asking the world is: Can we have some money for a new roof?"

I remember celebrating Easter Morning on the border of Uganda with a congregation of Anglican Christians. There were no church roofs to worry about – we met in the shade of some large trees. Many had walked considerable distances from the surrounding villages to be there and brought with them costly and sacrificial gifts such as eggs, chickens, cassava and in some cases money for the much-extended time of joy-filled offering. Afterwards we shared in a magnificent feast at which all were welcome.

I have been so blessed and enriched through my friendships and encounters with the world-wide church. Lichfield Diocese has for many years taken very seriously its part in the world- wide Anglican Communion through partnerships and links with other dioceses. Currently, as I anticipate my impending retirement from what has been a wonderfully fulfilling and rewarding job as World Mission Enabler in this diocese, we have been running a number of Zoom sessions with our global companions from S. Africa, S.E. Asia, Ireland, Canada and Northern Germany. We have celebrated our shared past, become informed about our present realities and committed ourselves to journeying together into God's future.

A former General Secretary of the Church Mission Society, Max Warren said, 'It takes the whole world to know the whole Christ'. In other words the insights we gain from new and different perspectives and from the experiences of others in following Christ across different cultures and contexts help shed light on God in human form – and so we are not just stuck with our particular and limited view of things. Let's work with the biggest corporation in the world – it's a win-win.

Rev'd Philip Swan

diocesan World Mission coordinator since 2010

The Lichfield Diocese website includes more about our links with the Church in other parts of the world – see www.lichfield.anglican.org/world-mission

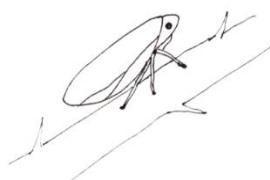


Froghoppers and Cuckoo Spit!

Have you ever wondered what makes the white, frothy clumps of bubbles that you sometimes see on plants during the summer? Known as Cuckoo spit, Frog spit or Snake spit this is not actually spittle at all, but is produced by juvenile Froghoppers or Spittlebugs. The larva feeds on



plant sap and much of the liquid passes through its little body and out again, under pressure. The grub blows a little air into the sticky sap and it bubbles up to form the clump of bubbles. These bubbles provide excellent protection for the growing bug, insulating it from changes in temperature and from drying out. It is also a deterrent against predators. If you look inside the protecting bubbles you will find a single young froghopper, pale green like the plant on which it feeds. Adult Froghoppers have a different system for avoiding predation, as their name suggests, they hop, sometimes jumping up to 70cm vertically, over 100 times their own length of between 5 and 7mm! They are often brown in colour, and thought to look a little like frogs.



Churchyards and cemeteries can hold a wide range of insect species, in part because of the lack of insecticides used. Most burial grounds have changed little over the decades and centuries, and this has allowed a wide range of insect species to build up. It is not uncommon for entomologists to find rarities in these special places. You can help insects by having differently managed areas within your churchyard. How about some short grass for solitary bees and wasps, longer grass for bees, butterflies and froghoppers and also an area of coarse or tussocky grass and plants such as cow parsley, perhaps against a hedge or wall. This will provide overwintering places for all sorts of animals as well as insects.

All the best, Harriet Carty

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

www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk - individuals and groups in the diocese receive 20% members discount on all CfGA materials. Use the discount code Lich19

From Endon Methodist Church:

16TH-18TH AUGUST

10:00AM-12:00PM

FREE EVENT FOR PRIMARY AGED
CHILDREN!

ON YOUR MARKS!



CONTACT:
JONATHANNEWBOULD@AOL.COM
07598580545

ON YOUR MARKS... GET SET... GO! COME
ALONG TO OUR OLYMPIC THEMED
HOLIDAY CLUB. WE WILL HAVE OUR OWN
MINI OLYMPICS ACTIVITIES AND SEE
WHAT IT IS LIKE TO BE PART OF JESUS'
TEAM.

ENDON METHODIST CHURCH, STATION RD, ST99DY



CANDLE DEDICATIONS for AUGUST

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 as soon as possible if you would like a particular date.

Aug	CANDLE OF HOPE	SANCTUARY LIGHT
1 st	Chris Morgan in loving memory of her Mum and Dad on their birthdays (5 th and 6 th August)	Barbara Brown in loving memory of Harry on his birthday (August 3 rd)
8 th	Janet Bowyer and David in memory of Helen and Edgar Bailey, grandparents of Janet, David and Robert	Anon in memory of Muriel and Graham Salt
15 th	Sheila and Stan to celebrate the birthday of their son-in-law, Phil (15 th)	Sue Forrester to celebrate the birthday of son Nick
22 nd	Tony Machin in loving memory of a very special wife and mother	The candle is kept burning by June and Peter Pope
29 th	Chris Morgan in memory of a dear friend Gill and her husband Tom	Tony Machin in loving memory of a very dear Mum and Dad

Happy Birthday!



AUGUST BIRTHDAY GREETINGS to

Caroline Bradshaw (2nd), Margaret Woolliscroft (11th),
Rachel Foster (13th), Sylvia Bradshaw (16th)

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

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE: Entries are charged at £15 each. Please contact Barrie or Shirley for more information. Phone nos on back page.



A BIG THANK YOU to the cake-makers at both St Luke's and Endon Methodist Churches for providing an abundance of cakes.

They were gifts from our churches to all the staff at St Luke's Academy and Endon Hall CP School as a thank you for their hard work and dedication during a really difficult year.

St Luke's Church hosted a visit from St Luke's Academy reception class on Monday, July 19th followed later by a special service for the Year 6 leavers when each pupil received a copy of St Luke's gospel.

Sue writes: *"What an amazing morning with the Reception Class from St Luke's CE Academy! They had learned so much in school about what happens in a church and were able to find all the objects on their work sheet. It was so hot and they were perfectly behaved.*



Each Y6 pupil was given a Gospel of St Luke at the end of their Leavers' Service. It was a great evening. We wish them and their families every success in the future."

We extend a big thank you to Sue Forrester for organising and running these events and to Shirley B who helped accompany the children to and from church and to Nathan and Jean who were on hand in church.

August Prayer Focus

- All adversely affected by the severe flooding in Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands and the rescue workers
- The Olympic Games and management of COVID infection risks
- Responsible behaviour following the removal of COVID restrictions
- The family of 6 yr old Charlotte tragically killed in a road accident at Norton Green
- The release of Roman Protasevich in police detention in Minsk
- The release of Iranian-British mother Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe
- The deepening crisis in Dem Rep Congo with not only COVID but cholera, floods and volcanic eruptions. 5m have fled their homes inc 3m children
- All medical staff worldwide battling COVID
- Our politicians as they make decisions which affect us all
- Improved safety for women on our streets
- Our police force and the challenges they face
- UK businesses and trade problems following the Brexit deals esp in N Ireland
- Thankfulness for those who have worked tirelessly to develop the COVID vaccines and those administering them
- A determination among folk to continue to adhere to government guidelines to stop the spread of infection
- The huge problem of loneliness
- Refugees everywhere especially 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
- Our new Bishop Matthew and the appointment of our next incumbent
- Our new Archdeacon Megan who takes up her post in October
- The Church of England dealing with a shortage of clergy and funds
- Yemen – the on-going crisis and those trying hard to get aid into the country
- 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
- All children in danger of going hungry especially during school holidays

DON'T FORGET THE FOOD BANK! (Please - no baked beans, pasta or baby milk)

Donations can be left in church and Barrie will ensure they are taken to the Leek depot.

- **Deodorant, toothpaste, shower gel, ladies' sanitary products, washing up liquid, shampoo**
- **Tinned meat eg chicken in white sauce, stewed steak and mince and onion**
- **Mashed potato, tinned potatoes**
- **Choc bars**
- **Pasta in sauce, pot noodles, savoury rice**
- **Fruit squash, UHT milk cartons**
- **Tomato ketchup and brown sauce**



Roger Simpson, St Luke's warden / worship leader / PCC chair	01782 502006
Barrie Jackson, reader / St Luke's PCC Sec / Administrator (* tel no for church enquiries)	07517 653370* 07510 074097
Sue Forrester, Flower & Craft Club / Foundation gov / Safeguarding Officer / St Luke's Facebook/sound desk	07854 043187
Deb Podmore, worship leader / Connections	01782 773383
Neil Taylor, worship leader / Connections	07961 652104
Sheila Simpson, St Luke's Electoral Roll Officer	01782 502006
June Pope, St Luke's warden's team	01782 503269
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
John & Julie Gater, Chernobyl Children's Project	01782 535000
James Benson, reader emeritus	01782 504137
Ros Benson, newsletter / St Luke's website	01782 504137
St Luke's vestry (church office)	01782 502166
Kath Howell, St Chad's PCC chair / warden / worship leader / safeguarding officer	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
Sheila Tipper, St Chad's news contact	01782 534647

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

Paper copies are available for those without internet access.

Please contact Barrie if you would like a paper copy or know someone who would. Please submit notices for our next newsletter to Ros Benson

by **Tuesday, August 24th**

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

A comment recently shared on Facebook:

***The whole world is short-staffed.
Be kind to those who showed up.***