



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



September 2021

INTERREGNUM Month 15



**St Luke's
Harvest
Thanksgiving
Sunday
September 26th**

**Donations to Leek Food Bank are welcome...
please choose items from this list:**

- JAM
- TINNED MEAT EG CHICKEN IN WHITE SAUCE
- TINNED STEWED STEAK AND MINCE AND ONION
- INSTANT MASH POTATO
- TINNED POTATOES
- TINNED VEGETABLES
- CHOC BARS
- FRUIT SQUASH
- WASHING UP LIQUID
- HAIR CONDITIONER
- SPONGE PUDDINGS
- TEABAGS - SMALL BOXES
- COFFEE - SMALL JARS
- KITCHEN, BATHROOM AND MULTI-SURFACE CLEANER
- CLEANING CLOTHS
- CAT FOOD POUCHES

Please remember...

- NO BAKED BEANS
- NO PASTA
- NO BABY FORMULA MILK



SEPTEMBER at ST LUKE'S

SUNDAY Sept 5th

9.15am HOLY COMMUNION

led by Rev Barry Wilson

11.00am CONNECTIONS

SUNDAY Sept 12th

9.15am MORNING WORSHIP

led by Roger

11.00am CONNECTIONS

SUNDAY Sept 19th

9.15am MORNING WORSHIP

led by Roger

11.00am CONNECTIONS

SUNDAY Sept 26th

9.15am HARVEST MORNING

WORSHIP led by Roger

11.00am CONNECTIONS

ECUMENICAL MIDWEEK SERVICES

Wednesdays 9.15am

Sept 1st at St Luke's MP

Sept 8th Meth Ch HC

Sept 15th St Luke's HC

Sept 22nd Meth Ch MP

Sept 29th St Luke's HC

NB All CONNECTIONS

meetings are held in

the main hall of

St Luke's CE Academy (along

Leek Road) and not in the

church.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDIES

Monday evening at James and Ros's at

7.30pm led by Barrie. This has now resumed and open to anyone who would like to come along. We are currently looking at John's gospel. Please phone James, Ros or Barrie for further information.

Wednesday evening bible study continues on Zoom fortnightly. For more information please contact Deb Podmore.

All phone nos are on the back page.

ST LUKE'S ZOOM MEETINGS

11.00am COFFEE & CHAT on Fridays

(hosted by Neil Taylor). All welcome. Contact Neil for further info.

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**.

The church is also open for private prayer. All enquiries relating to baptisms, weddings and funerals should be directed to Barrie. (**Barrie on holiday for two weeks end of September.*)

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!

KNITTED SQUARES...UPDATE FROM SUE



Who said the summer would slow the knitting? I don't think so. There have been many more contributions than expected!

Above you see just some of the recent donations from Yorkshire, Biddulph Moor, Endon and district. Many other squares came from Frances in Biddulph, who is 90, from Sylvia who is completely blind (a prolific knitter) and from Margaret who is in her 80s.

Several complete blankets were donated by ladies of the Dorcas foundation, an organisation dedicated to help women ex-prisoners. (These blankets were refused by Stoke-on-Trent Council but were good fortune for us!)

As soon as conditions are favourable trips to France will resume.

So the message is... **THANK YOU and please keep knitting!**

ENDON METHODIST CHURCH COMMUNITY CAFÉ

*The community café has now re-opened from 10.00am to 2.00pm on Mondays.
Extra volunteers are most welcome.*

CONGRATULATIONS

to Steve Dale and Debbie who were married recently.

Sorry no photos are available.

We pray the Lord's blessing on their future together.





SEPTEMBER AT ST CHAD'S

Sept 5th Family Service KH and team

12th Praise and Prayer KH/MF

19th Holy Communion

Rev Barry Wilson

26th Morning Worship KH/MF

OCTOBER AT ST CHAD'S

3rd Oct **HARVEST FAMILY SERVICE*** Kath w team

10th Praise and Prayer KH/MF

17th Holy Communion Rev Barry Wilson

24th Morning Prayer KH/MF

31st Annual Memorial service KH/MF

A SPECIAL BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Carrie's mum Neiliya Siegertsz was 90 on the 12th August.

*HARVEST SERVICE

October 3rd at 10.45am

Please bring gifts suitable for the food bank rather than fresh produce.

There will be a cold, buffet style lunch in the Village Hall. Details available in church later and proceeds will go to St Chad's this year.



It looks like a good time was had by all! Congratulations to Neiliya and many happy returns of the day.

AFTER A LONG WAIT TOM and LIBNAH finally wed at ST LUKE'S



Members of St Luke's Flower Club were delighted to decorate the church for the wedding of Tom and Libnah Bagnall on Saturday 14th August.

They have both been attending St Luke's as often as they can and plan to continue as they begin their married life.

Their reception took place at Tom's family farm in Dilhorne.

We wish them both well for the future and the Lord's blessing.



THANK YOU SHEILA!



THE GARDEN...

St Luke's church car park garden is maturing nicely and looking better than ever this summer. It continues to be well maintained by Sheila Hurst. This year a standard rose was added in memory of our lovely Ina Porter having been donated by her family.

...and THOSE STEPS

The steps are continuing to present safety problems but Barrie and the PCC are on top of the job and Andy Barker will be carrying out repairs very

shortly. In the meantime you are advised to avoid using the steps and walk from the car park to the road exit and up the bank to enter the church grounds through the lych-gate.



SURPRISE GIFTS

James and I had a very pleasant surprise at the Morning Service recently. Our wedding anniversary had been the previous Sunday. Thank you St Luke's for helping us celebrate our 47th anniversary in the place where we were both baptised and where we eventually met each other and were married over 20 years later! Here we are with Roger and Barrie who presented us with a lovely bunch of flowers and a framed copy of our wedding certificate. **Ros**

FLOWER & CRAFT CLUB

This resumes on Wednesday 15th September in the chapter house from 1.00pm to 3.00pm and for the time being will be a monthly meeting and not fortnightly as before. Please contact Sue Forrester for more information (phone no on last page).



Come follow Christ in the footsteps of St Chad

WORKING WITH THE BIGGEST CORPORATION IN THE WORLD – THE CHURCH

September is the start of the new school year and this one perhaps with more hopes than the last.

Alex Wolvers, diocesan Missions in Schools Enabler certainly has:

As a member of both the diocese board of education and the mission team my role has looked very different since Covid hit. One of my main jobs over the last 19 months has been the writing of 'bubble' worship material, alongside the rest of our team. These resources have been used by church workers as part of their outreach to schools and directly by schools for the use in their class bubbles and it has even been adapted as part of their home learning packs. Writing the worships has been fun and it has been a privilege to serve our schools in this way, but nothing truly beats being in school with the children. Thankfully things are beginning to change.

I had a fantastic opportunity last week to share one of outdoor 'Blue Sky Worships' with a group of children in a local school not far from where I live. It was an amazing time as we spent a warm morning in the forest reflecting on the creation poem that can be found in Genesis 1, the very first chapter of the Bible. The opening words of the Bible are perhaps the most famous ever written. 'In the beginning, God created...' The rest of the chapter unfolds as a picture of every part of creation being carefully made to fulfil its own purpose. There's a refrain that runs through it all, 'And God saw that it was good' that is until it comes to human beings when God announces that these are, 'very good.'

It was great fun spending time with the children exploring God's creation, imagining that this was the first time that we had ever seen it. We looked at all the shades of green there were surrounding us, we looked for the smallest living thing that we could find, and we looked at one thing that truly made us go, 'WOW!' We also looked for something that was mentioned in the Bible verses and seeing as we had an Adam and an Eve in the class that one was easy.

The Bible teaches us that we need to become 'like little children' – spending that morning with those group of children gave me a real insight into what that verse actually means.

The joy, the laughter, the fun, and amazement with which they approached God's world were all a real blessing to me. I encourage you, either as individuals or as a church community, if you are not already, to get involved in worship at your local school. This could be through Open the Book biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/open-the-book/ or using our worship material www.ldbe.co.uk/ or consider how your church grounds could be used as a resource in itself.



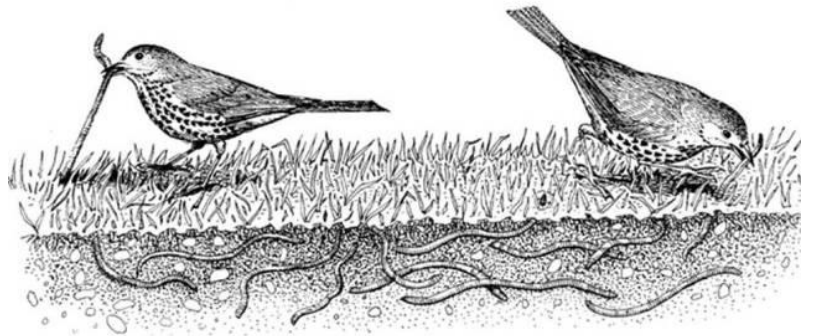
Alex Wolvers



In Praise of Short Grass

It's easy to overlook the value of short-mown grass, a habitat found in almost all churchyards. Whilst long, flowery meadow areas are particularly good for wildlife, short grass is important too. Keep a look out for pied wagtails, they hunt across flat surfaces like car parks and lawns, always on the move, looking for insects to eat. The black and white colours and 'wagging' tail makes them easy to spot.

Short mown grass is also a favourite of one of our most distinctive birds, the Song Thrush. Song thrushes roost and nest in churchyard trees then use short grass areas to feed, searching for worms, other soil invertebrates as well as fruits such as berries. They also feed on snails which they then open by smashing the shell onto a stone with a flick of the head. A song thrush will use the same place repeatedly for breaking shells, and you may hear the hammer sound of the unfortunate snail, a sound which gives the name of Thrush Anvil to these stones.



Song thrushes are shy birds, often seen at dawn and dusk and wary of coming too far away from shelter. This makes churchyards perfect places for them, combining trees and shrubs for shelter with short mown grass for hunting. Listen for the beautiful song of the song thrush which perches high in a tree to give maximum amplification and sings short phrases, repeating a phrase 3 or 4 times then starting another one.

You can help song thrushes by keeping a mix of grass lengths including some short-mown areas. Log piles, leaf litter and compost heaps in the shade help to provide snails, ready for the anvil! A simple bird bath will provide birds with a drink and somewhere to bathe too and berry bearing trees and shrubs an extra food source. Please listen for the call of the song thrush and let us know if you hear or see one in your churchyard.

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 Lich19



CANDLE DEDICATIONS for SEPTEMBER

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.

Sept	CANDLE OF HOPE	SANCTUARY LIGHT
5 th	Anon in memory of Noreen Gould	Ann Boulton to celebrate Emma and Lee's wedding anniversary
12 th	Sylvia Bradshaw to celebrate the birthday of twin granddaughters, Lily and Emma (16 th)	Barrie in celebration of Simon's birthday
19 th	Janet and David in memory of Nancy Moss, mother of David and Robert	The candle is kept burning by Avril Weaver
26 th	Shirley and Roger to celebrate the 12 th birthday of twin grandsons, Will and Tom	The candle is kept burning by June and Pope



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY GREETINGS to

Matthew Stone (8th), Laura Morris (13th),
Elizabeth McClintock (23rd), Duncan Woolliscroft,
Simon Jackson (26th), Shirley Brindley (28th),
Alastair Stone (29th)

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.

September Prayer Focus

- **AFGHANISTAN...**The families and friends of all those killed or badly injured in the suicide attacks near Kabul airport as well as the medical services striving in very difficult circumstances to do their best for the injured
- The desperate plight of those wanting to leave Afghanistan after the takeover by the Taliban
- Those countries accepting refugees
- Those reluctant to have a COVID vaccine and especially those attending large gatherings
- All adversely affected by the earthquakes in Haiti and the severe mud slides in Turkey
- Responsible behaviour following the removal of COVID restrictions
- 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

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 is 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, September 21st**

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