



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 2024

INTERREGNUM Month 52

'GREET AND TREAT'

Thursday 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 26th or late for church you will be!**

OCTOBER at ST LUKE'S

6th SUNDAY

9.15am HOLY COMMUNION

– Rev Philip

11.00am CONNECTIONS

13th SUNDAY

9.15am MORNING WORSHIP –

Roger

11.00am CONNECTIONS

20th SUNDAY

9.15am HOLY COMMUNION

– Fr David

11.00am CONNECTIONS

27th SUNDAY

9.15am MORNING WORSHIP –

Barrie / Roger

11.00am CONNECTIONS

ECUMENICAL SERVICES

Wednesdays:

Holy Communion at 9.15am

2nd Oct at Methodist Church

9th Sept at St Luke's

16th Oct at Methodist Church

23rd Oct at St Luke's



CONNECTIONS

PLEASE NOTE: From October 6th there will be a “soft start” from 10.30 prior to the main service at 11am when folk will be welcome for a coffee and chat.

St Luke's CE Academy,
Leek Road in the school hall
with games for the children and
refreshments.

OCTOBER at ST CHAD'S

6th SUNDAY

10.45am HARVEST FAMILY SERVICE – KH with Adam Yates from the Hub Foundation.

Food Bank collection.

Harvest Lunch at 1pm in Bagnall Village Hall.

13th SUNDAY

10.45am PRAYER & PRAISE – MF / Terry

20th SUNDAY

10.45am HOLY COMMUNION – Rev Barry

27th SUNDAY

10.45am MEMORIAL SERVICE – KH/Rev Carrie

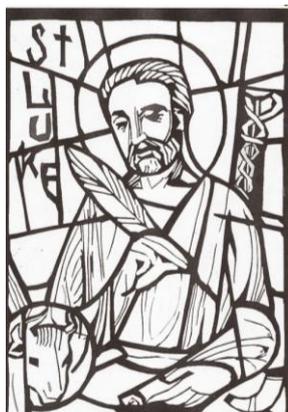
DATE FOR YOUR DIARY...

SATURDAY 30th NOVEMBER – Community Christmas Fayre in Bagnall village hall.



SKYDIVE for Parkinson's

In September Emma B completed her skydive for 'Cure Parkinson's' in memory of James. You can still sponsor her if you have not done so already! Please sign the sponsorship form at the back of church or head to www.justgiving.com and search for Emma Bebbington or James Benson.



October 18th is St Luke's Day. Let's celebrate our patron saint!

October 2024: ST LUKE'S CHURCH DIARY
(ESL Endon St Luke's; EMC = Endon Methodist Church)

Tu	1 st	
W	2 nd	9.15am HC at EMC
Th	3 rd	2.00pm Pastoral Team meeting
F	4 th	
Sa	5 th	8.30am PRAYER BREAKFAST 10.30am ART CLUB chapter house
Su	6 th	9.15am HC w Rev Philip 10.30 welcome to 11.00am CONNECTIONS FOOD BANK COLLECTION
M	7 th	
Tu	8 th	
W	9 th	9.15am HC at ESL 1.00pm FLOWER CLUB chapter house 7.00pm LIFE GROUP chapter house
Th	10 th	
F	11 th	
Sa	12 th	
Su	13 th	9.15am MORNING WORSHIP 10.30 welcome to 11.00am CONNECTIONS
M	14 th	
Tu	15 th	
W	16 th	9.15am HC at EMC 11.00am HILLSWOOD LODGE short service
Th	17 th	
F	18 th	ST LUKE'S DAY
Sa	19 th	
Su	20 th	9.15am HC w Fr David 10.30 welcome to 11.00am CONNECTIONS
M	21 st	
T	22 nd	
W	23 rd	9.15am HC at ESL 7.00pm LIFE GROUP chapter house
Th	24 th	
F	25 th	
Sa	26 th	<i>CLOCKS BACK TONIGHT</i>
Su	27 th	9.15am MORNING WORSHIP 10.30 welcome to 11.00am CONNECTIONS
M	28 th	
Tu	29 th	
W	30 th	9.15am Midweek HC at EMC
Th	31 st	6.00pm 'GREET & TREAT' meet in chapter house

DONATIONS and QQI

Donations to St Luke's in memory of James and Mabel totalled approximately £2000. This has been helpful in funding our long overdue Quinquennial Inspection which was eventually carried out in August. Roger our warden was present at this and was impressed at how much of the inspection of the higher structures and roof were done by drone so less climbing of ladders was required. We await the inspector's report



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. Thank you to all of you who have supported the candle dedications this year.

Please contact Shirley on 504089 if you would like a particular date.

Oct	CANDLE OF HOPE	SANCTUARY LIGHT
6 th	Ann Boulton to celebrate Emma's birthday (6 th)	Barbara Brown in loving memory of Bill and Beatrice on their wedding anniversary
13 th	Maureen Foster to celebrate the birthdays of her grandchildren, Emily (5 th) and Joe (13 th)	Alan and Maureen Payne Always remembered.... Chris Maltby, Phil Robb and John Pagan
20 th	Sheila and Stan Hurst to celebrate the birthday of their granddaughter, Bethany	Barrie in celebration of Amy's birthday
27 th	Sheila and Stan Hurst to celebrate the birthday of their granddaughter, Anne	Sheila and Stan Hurst to celebrate the birthday of their son, Paul



BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS to

George Rigby (2nd), James Porter (4th), Emma Greatbatch (6th),
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



COFFEE MORNING INVITATION

Endon Methodists are holding a fundraising Coffee Morning for MacMillan Cancer Support on Saturday **28th September** from 10.00am to 12noon.

NB This means that we shall not be holding a similar event at St Luke's as previously planned.



LEEK FOOD BANK REPORT

from Lindsey Stockton, Project Manager

Here are the figures for August:

Total vouchers fulfilled	= 95 (120)
No. of Adults fed	= 140 (168)
No. of Children fed	= 75 (84)
Total no. fed	= 215 (252)

Again, it was a much quieter month than this time last year. I would like to be able to give some robust reason for this, but there just isn't one. We have now completed our six weeks' holiday meal provision in partnership with Trinity Church, and it has been a huge success, with a total of 232 meals being prepared.

We send massive thanks to Maureen Wiskin, and the volunteers from the church and the Foodbank for planning and delivering this invaluable service for our clients. I'm sure this is something which will be replicated during future school holiday periods.

If you are a donor, please try to deliver your donations at the Foodbank on Tuesday and Friday 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/>

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. Thank you all for your ongoing support for all that we do.

Best wishes
Lindsey Stockton, Project Manager

Our current list of needed items:

FOOD:

Longlife semi-skimmed milk

Pasta sauce

Tinned carrots/corn

Instant mash

Tinned custard

Tinned tuna

Tinned fruit

Rice – 500gm/microwave pouches

Fruit squash

Longlife sponge puddings

Coffee - 100/200gm

Tinned meat

Tinned rice pudding

Pasta n sauce / instant noodles

Tomato ketchup

Chocolate biscuits

Dry dog food

Jam

HOUSEHOLD CLEANING PRODUCTS:

Washing up liquid

Multi surface cleaner (no bleach)

Cleaning cloths/sponges

Laundry liquid/capsules/powder

TOILETRIES:

Shampoo and conditioner

Shower gel

Toothpaste and toothbrushes

Deodorant

Razors and shaving foam

Toilet rolls

We would also be very grateful to receive any good quality, used carrier bags.

NEWS FROM ST CHAD'S

Members of St Chad's were saddened to hear of the death of Pat Adams, wife of Peter who writes...

Pat passed away peacefully at home on Monday 27th of August at 1:20 p.m. It was a release from months of agonising pain and immobility. Funeral will be at 11.30am at St Chad's on Friday 25th October followed by committal at Carmountside. Wake at the Stafford Arms. At her request, bright colours and no black please.



Sheila Tipper adds...Pat was a very dedicated and enthusiastic member of St Chad's for many years and she will be sadly missed. Pat and Peter were at St Chad's to celebrate their diamond wedding anniversary. Pat was a keen gardener and always helped with the churchyard tidy-up. She was a very gifted craftswoman, making cards to sell for St Chad's and particularly specialising in embroidery. Each year her banners are displayed in church at Easter and Christmas.

60 DIAMOND YEARS FOR VAL and BRIAN...

St Chad's congratulated Val and Brian Houston on reaching their milestone of 60 years of marriage.....a diamond wedding which they celebrated with their family.

St Luke's also send them congratulations and prayers for many more happy years. I wonder if they received a card from King Charles?

(Ros adds...Brian remembers when he was a pupil in my dad's class when he first started teaching at Smallthorne CP School in the late 1930s.)



The Methodist Church

- **Every Sunday** 10.00 Worship
- **Mondays** 10.00 – 1.30 Community Café (not bank holidays).
- **Wednesdays** 9.15 Holy Communion
Alternately with St Luke's Parish Church
- **Thursdays** 10.30 Fit-as-a-fiddle: Exercise, conversation and coffee
- **Friday Friends** 11th & 25th **October** 10.00am – 12.00noon
- **Saturday, October ?** 10 - 12 Coffee Pot Cafe (see notice outside church for date)
- **Friday** 6pm 'Blast' – youth club for 7-11 year olds (during term time)



ATTENTION IF YOU LIVE ALONE...A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!

Rev Patricia will be holding another evening event at her home 31, Hillswood Drive at 6pm on Saturday 2nd **November**. She warmly invites all members of our congregation who live alone. Please inform her as soon as possible if you are able to come.



Come follow Christ in the footsteps of St Chad

FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH: BLACK HISTORY MONTH



One of the most frequent questions I am asked is why do we need a Black History Month, what does it mean for the church and our lives today?

I think it is easier to answer that question this year more than any as we have all seen the violence, intimidation, rioting and division that took place across our country a couple of months ago. We as a Church can become complacent in our thinking that race doesn't matter, and we are all the same in God's eyes so why the special treatment. We can within our church bubbles think of ourselves as caring, responsible; places of peace and flourishing for all. The events of the last months showed

us how slender that thread of respectful relationships can be. We need to be aware of the narrative from media and social media which paints a picture of division and hate, and Christians are not immune to that negativity and hate.

I believe that Black History Month gives us all time to reflect on differences within our space and to celebrate that difference. Intercultural mission involves reaching out to all nations and integrating into one worshipping community as they love and serve Jesus and each other. Black History month encourages people to learn more about Britain's colonial history, which is often not taught in school. It gives us space to understand ourselves and our own biases. Knowledge is power in terms of the church and enables us to be better stewards of the privilege and blessings that are enjoyed by a proportion of the church.

So, what can I do in my parish in leafy Shropshire, or urban Wolverhampton? You can invest your time to understand the experience of black Christians in the Church of England, you can become part of an ever-growing solution building on knowledge and understanding, you can advocate for racial justice and become a champion. God's great commission to all nations requires us to truly know or neighbour as ourselves.

I would recommend the following activities:

Join the Anglican Network for Intercultural churches which exists to enhance understanding of effecting intercultural mission. <https://anic.org.uk/>

- Attend 'Unconscious bias' training on 20 November 2024 at St John's Essington, 27 March 2025 at Doxey, Stafford or 5 June 2025 at Reeves Room, Lichfield – do book on via www.lichfield.anglican.org/calendar/
- Attending the Selwyn Lecture, in Lichfield Cathedral on 28 November 2024 at 9.30am, there will be a booking facility on the diocesan website closer to the date.

*Canon Debbie Parkes is co-convenor of Lichfield Diocese's Racial Justice and Inclusion Task Group, and a lay canon of Lichfield Cathedral.
www.lichfield.anglican.org/racial-justice/*



Wonderful Waxcaps

By October, the areas of long, meadow grass within a churchyard or cemetery will have been mown short and raked, making it is easy to wander around and look for colourful fungi. Old grasslands, like those found in burial grounds, have a fabulously complex web of life beneath the sward, of which fungi are a key part. These grassland fungi, which are different species from those

found growing on trees or on deadwood on the ground, are 'indicator species' showing an observer that this grassland is precious, has not been ploughed, fertilised or treated with chemicals for a long time (if ever).



The **mycelium** of the fungi is the part below ground, this consists of thread-like '**hyphae**' which may be connected to a range of grasses, mosses, trees and flowering plants. After rain, and often in the autumn, the mycelium pushes up the fungal equivalent of a fruit above the ground where we can see it. Fungi are largely made of water and so can appear quickly, pumped up by hydrostatic power. The purpose of this is to spread the species far and wide, with a single mushroom able to contain vast numbers of microscopic spores. In the grassland the fungi you find

might be waxcaps and pinkgills both of which are shaped like a small mushroom, or spindles and earth tongues, both of which are long and thin. Many fungi are long-lived and may not fruit every year, some only fruiting once in a decade so are rarely seen. They continue to grow and spread beneath the ground however. Grassland fungi have long captured our imaginations as their names indicate. Look for scarlet, parrot, snowy, butter and ballerina waxcaps. How about skinny club, crested coral, golden spindles or hairy earthtongue.

Although shiny and brightly coloured, these grassland fungi can be difficult to identify as they can change colour with time. Some of the colours are water soluble so fade or change quickly, particularly if it rains. They are however delightful to look at, and even if you don't know which waxcap or spindle you are looking at, the presence of these grassland fungi is relevant and worth recording. If you take a photo of the top, side and ideally the underside showing the gills where the spores are found, it may be possible for someone to identify it, particularly if you use the iNaturalist app on a smartphone or tablet.



Grassland fungi need our help so please look after them. Always rake off the cuttings after mowing, strimming or scything grassland, whether it is long or short grass. This helps to keep the soil fertility low which the fungi need, as do the wildflowers. Avoid any chemicals and keep grasslands managed with regular cutting so that they don't turn become coarse and rough. You may be rewarded with a scattering of colourful fungi looking like jewels across the sward. As well as looking pretty and adding to the richness of biodiversity they, and the other plants, lichens, invertebrates and microbes are all storing carbon in our soils, one of the many natural solutions to climate change.

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**

Alsager Community Choir

Dougie Mac Choir

Endon Community Choir

Fulford Community Choir

Stafford Military Wives Choir

Ovation Workplace Choir

Musical Director - Dan Hollingshurst

Six Choirs Together in Song!

**Longton Central Methodist Hall,
The Strand Longton, ST3 2JH
Concert 7pm (Doors open 6.30pm)
Saturday 12 October**

Tickets: £10 adult, £6 child

All seating is unreserved

Tickets Available from:

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/DGGA>



October Prayer Focus

- **A ceasefire and lasting peace between Israel and Gaza.**
- **Non-escalation of war as Hezbollah and Lebanon are now involved**
- **For peace amid the current unrest following the murder of the three children in Southport**
- **Those affected by M-Pox and those trying to stop its spread**
- **Our new government**
- **The US presidential election**
- **Rev Denise Williamson our new Methodist minister based in Endon**
- **An end to people-trafficking and the ongoing problem of refugees and asylum seekers crowding into unsafe boats to cross the Channel**
- **The desperate plight of the people of Afghanistan under harsh Taliban rule**
- **The people of South Sudan enduring great hardship and near famine conditions**
- **The wife and family of opposition leader Alexei Navalny and the repercussions of his death in Russia and around the world**
- **Ukraine and the urgent need for arms and an end to the war**
- **Safety for shipping in the Red Sea and the financial consequences of longer journeys around the Cape**
- **Our king and the Princess of Wales as they undergo cancer treatment**
- **The families of all those whose loved ones have been murdered**
- **The truly horrendous situation in Israel and Gaza and especially the hostages**
- **A permanent cease-fire and the release of all hostages and for desperately needed aid getting into Gaza**
- **Climate change and the urgent need to combat its effects**
- **Those taken prisoner**
- **The current threat from China, Iran and N Korea supporting Russia in the war in Ukraine**
- **All aid agencies and volunteer recovery teams**
- **Those seeking justice for women in Iran and regime change**
- **All hostages in Iran awaiting release especially Morad Tahbaz and Mehran Raoff**
- **The huge problem of loneliness**
- **Loved ones and all in our parish who are currently unwell**
- **Improvements in the treatment of cancer, heart disease and neurological conditions**
- **Our church wardens and worship leaders during the interregnum**
- **The future of our benefice as we enter our fifth year 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**
- **The problem of the millions of plastic bottles afloat in our oceans and the tons of 'space junk' orbiting our planet**
- **The problem of river pollution brought about by discharge of sewage**
- **All who have lost loved ones recently**
- **The Trussell Trust food banks still needed as much as ever**



THE FLOWER & CRAFT

CLUB Next meeting: Wednesday **October 9th** from 1.00 – 3.00pm in the chapter house. These are some of the displays created at our September meeting using containers found in kitchens! Remember you are welcome to come along just for a chat and a cuppa!

THE ART GROUP is meeting on Saturday **5th October** from 10.30am to 12.30pm in the chapter house following the prayer breakfast. Here are two of the artworks created in the September session.



PRAYER BREAKFAST

The next prayer breakfast will be held on Saturday, **October 5th** at 8.30am for breakfast and prayer at 9.00am.

LIFE GROUP MEETINGS

These will continue on Wednesdays, **October 9th & 23rd** at 7.00pm in the chapter house led by Rev Patricia. All are welcome.

PASTORAL TEAM (Phone nos on back page)

HILLSWOOD LODGE CARE HOME:

next visit Wed October 16th at 11.00am (TBC)

Volunteers are welcome to help boost the singing. There is room for 6 or 7 of us. Please inform Shirley or Rev Patricia if you are able to come. The residents really do enjoy these services and the chats afterwards.

HOME and CARE HOME VISITS: Pastoral team members regularly visit folk who are no longer able to attend church. Do get in touch with Shirley if you know of anyone who would like a visit.

WALKS followed by refreshments: Listen up for details of the next walk. Do join us.

Roger Simpson, St Luke's warden / worship / PCC chair	01782 502006
Barrie Jackson, reader / 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
Sue Forrester, Flower & Craft Club / Foundation gov / Safeguarding Officer / St Luke's Facebook / Art Club	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 / PCC Secretary	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 22nd 2024**

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

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.

ANOTHER CONCERT:

The Phoenix Singers will be presenting "**PHOENIX FAVOURITES**" on Saturday, **19th October** at 7.30pm in Trinity Church, Leek. Tickets are £10 each (under 18s £5) from choir members, Leek Post Office and Picture Book or tel 01538 388900.

This is a fundraiser for Cancer Research UK.

SUPPORT JOE! Joe Porter ran in the Potters' Arf on Sunday, Sept 29th for the Dougie Mac Trust . He would be pleased to accept donations. Well done Joe!