

19th May 2022

News from the parish



Dear Church Family,

This month was our Annual Parochial Church Meeting, a joyous occasion where we launched our new 5-year vision for the parish (copies of the vision booklet are available in all of our churches). I opened the meeting looking at Philippians 1:3-11 – thinking especially of that key phrase Paul uses in v5, of our “*partnership in the gospel*” together. For every Christian who is a part of our church family – all those trusting in Jesus – God is at work in us. The same God is at work in each of us, which is something that unites us together. We are in “*partnership in the gospel,*” as God works in us, working together for Him.

Which is really Paul’s prayer for the Philippians in these verses – that they would keep going in their love for God, worked out in love for others, especially as they partner together. Something Paul prays confidently for them, v6 confident “*that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*” No matter what we face, in our individual lives or together as churches, we can be encouraged that God’s good work continues in our lives, even when we don’t see it. And as we face the challenges of life, we can say to ourselves, ‘*Jesus is working right now to complete what He started in me, or in us together.*’

God is working to complete the work in us He has already begun. And God will bring it to completion. So as we look ahead with our new 5-year vision, trusting in Jesus, and whatever happens – we can be full of joy and thanks, confident that Jesus has been and will continue to complete the work in us He has already begun!

Ben Thorndike, Vicar

From our new Treasurer

My wife, Lorna, and I have attended SS Peter & Paul Church for more than 35 years. In that time we have been involved with various groups, and many of you will recognise us from behind the kitchen counter occasionally on Sunday mornings. We have two daughters and a son, now adults, who enjoyed the fun and teaching from the children and youth groups which was fundamental in their knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I have recently been asked to represent you as **Parish Treasurer**. This is of course a very challenging opportunity to work in the Lord’s service, but with a fantastic team of wonderful people from around the parish with me you can be assured of our total commitment to looking after the church finances on your behalf. As you will recall from the APCM earlier this month, the immediate challenge is to reduce the deficit and to prepare both for the anticipated inflation and expected big increase in fuel costs towards the end of the year. **Paul Jagger**



- **Worship in the Wild** is moving to the last Sunday of the month, and this term is going to be sense-ational. Join us in the churchyard of St Peter & St Paul, 3pm on 29th May.

- **Refresh** have begun their series looking at some of the ‘Big Questions’ of the Christian faith, and asking their own questions along the way. A term card of all we’re looking at can be downloaded from the **Youth Ministry** section of our website.

- Bookings for **Holiday Club** are now open! We have space for up to 100 children to be with us and forms are available at the back of our churches or downloadable from the **Children’s Ministry** section of our website. Please do think & pray about who you could invite to be with us.

- Please continue to pray for our children, young people, families & team:

- for those undertaking exams at this time
- for families to engage with Thy Kingdom Come & the Cheeky Pandas material
- for continuing preparations for Holiday Club in July
- that families would increasingly feel safe & able to join us for Sunday worship.

Parish family news & coming up...



- **Platinum Jubilee Celebrations across the Parish, 3rd-5th June inc:**
 - Mini Flower-Festival** serving all day refreshments @ St Peter & St Paul, Church Lane
 - Friday 3rd & Saturday 4th June, 10am-4pm
 - Sunday 5th June, 10.45am Morning Communion, then open 12noon-4pm
 - St Andrew** welcome everyone to a Jubilee Soirée of Music with Wine.
Bring your own glass and voice and any musical Instrument you would like to play.
 - Friday 3rd June, 5.30-7.30pm
 - Open House Strawberry Cream Teas** serving during the morning @ St Philip's, Salisbury Road
 - Saturday 4th June, 10am-12noon
 - St Saviour** The Dry Hill Park Community is organising a street party in Dry Hill Park Crescent.
The church and grounds will be part of the celebrations.
A small display of memorabilia and memories is planned.
 - Sunday 5th June 2-7.00pm
- **Prayer for Ukraine**, Thursday 26th May, 7.30-11.30pm @ St Saviour, Dry Hill Park Crescent. Our parish is hosting the meeting and the invitation is extended to Tonbridge churches. Feel free to drop in anytime between 7.30-11.30pm for whatever time you would like to give. More information available in churches from Sunday or from the Parish Office!
- **Thy Kingdom Come (26th May – 5th June)** We are all encouraged to pray for 5 friends or family to come to Jesus. Novena reflections booklet and prayer journal will be available in churches on 22nd May. Join a short informal prayer walk on Saturday 28th May 10.00am at the Parish Church. Just turn up but any questions contact Sally.
- **Music Bash** returns on Saturday 28th May, 5-6.30pm @ St Peter & St Paul, Church Lane. All welcome for relaxed time of singing, fellowship & hospitality—if you wish to attend, please let Felicity Layton, Wendy Balcombe or Steve Minton know—thank you.
- **Midweek Holy Communion** at St Peter & St Paul on Wednesday 1st June, 10:30am with Rev'd Deryck Charnock and Wednesday 15th June, 10:30am with Rev'd Wendy Carr.
- **Church Family Prayers** over Zoom (873 2048 1612), every Friday at 9.30am for 15-20 minutes. We gather to pray together for ministry over the weekend ahead, and other things happening in the life of the church and the world and would love you to join us.



Our sympathy and prayers are with all those across the parish who have recently lost loved ones.

We remember family & friends of **Barry Harrison** who died on 28th April 2022 in Chestnut Lodge.

Barry's funeral service takes place on Friday 27th May, 2pm at St Peter & St Paul, Tonbridge.

A warm invitation is extended to church family to join Anthea, Judi, Anthony & Joshua for the service & wake afterwards, also at St Peter & St Paul.

The month ahead – services & activities



SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES & PREACHERS

Sunday	St Peter & St Paul 8am Holy Communion	St Peter & St Paul 10:45am Service*	St Peter & St Paul 6pm Evening Service
22nd May / Mark 2: 13-17	Rev'd Wendy Carr	Rev'd Ben Thorndike	Sally Musson (HC) Hebrews 4: 1-13
29th May / Mark 2: 18-3:6	Rev'd Deryck Charnock	David Balcombe	Brian Buck Hebrews 4: 14-16
5th June / Proverbs 9:10	Sally Musson	Rev'd Ben Thorndike (HC)	Sally Musson Proverbs 9:10
12th June / Mark 3: 7-19	Rev'd Wendy Carr	Rev'd Ben Thorndike	John Schluter Hebrews 5: 1-10

Sunday	St Philip 10:45am Service	St Andrew 9:15am Service	St Saviour 9:15am Service
22nd May / Mark 2: 13-17	Rev'd Wendy Carr	Rev'd Wendy Carr	Brian Buck (HC)
29th May / Mark 2: 18-3:6	Felicity Layton	Rev'd Deryck Charnock	John Schluter
5th June / Proverbs 9:10	Rev'd Wendy Carr	Brian Buck	Sally Musson
12th June / Mark 3: 7-19	Norman Whitfield (HC)	Rev'd Ben Thorndike	Rev'd Wendy Carr

(HC) Holy Communion Service

* also livestreamed on our YouTube channel

GROUPS & ACTIVITIES ACROSS THE PARISH

Day	Group	Meet at...	Contact
Saturday	Health Walks	10am from St Philip	Sandra Stagg sandra_stagg@hotmail.com
	Open House (4&18/6,9/7)	10am St Philip	Rev'd Wendy Carr wendy@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk
Sunday	Children's Groups R-Y9 Refresh Y10-13	10:45am St Peter & St Paul and St Philip	Andy Page andy@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk
Monday	Book Club	10am St Peter & St Paul	Patricia King patricia_smart@yahoo.com
	Coffee Break inc Thought for the Day	10:30am St Saviour	Alison Wise a.wise.7@btinternet.com
	Men's Fellowship (2nd & 4th Monday)	7:45pm St Philip	Ray Tanner raytanner_1@btinternet.com
Tuesday	Teddies Toddler Group (term time only)	9:30am St Peter & St Paul	Patricia King patricia_smart@yahoo.com
Wednesday	Tiny Acorns under 1s (all year round)	10:30am St Peter & St Paul	Sara Thomson sarajthomson44@gmail.com
Thursday	Stepping Stones Bible Study (term time only)	10am St Peter & St Paul	Josephine Sinclair josephinedb@yahoo.co.uk
Friday	Women's Fellowship (2nd & 4th Friday)	7:30pm St Philip	Marion Evans marionevans244@gmail.com