

## Pastoral Letter for September Ah, September.

The season of mists and mellow fruitfulness is upon us.

The month that ushers in the shifting of the seasons...

The month I think I might just love the most.

The orchards are being picked and packed. The blackberries are warm and sweet, nourished by the summer sun. I may need a cardigan in the morning but its barefoot paddling weather again by the afternoon.

And yet, on the furthest periphery of my emotional vision, barely within my grasp, is the oncoming hint of something else... Even as we soak in the warm glow of the afternoon sunshine, we feel the gentle chill now in the morning air, whispering to us of season's end... The gardens are just tipping over from the peak of summer glory, still beautiful but more rugged now. My heart feels what my eyes can't yet see...

*We know that in September, we will wander through the warm winds of summer's wreckage. We will welcome summer's ghost (Henry Rollins)*

'Not so fast!' is the cry of my heart 'I'm not ready yet!'

And yet, September still comes, lightly tapping on my shoulder, reminding me that things end - and things begin - whether I'm ready for them or not.

The writer of the book of Ecclesiastes wrestles with the human state - our limitations, our finiteness - and, in it, are some very well-known words of wisdom (often attributed to The Byrds!)

To everything there is a season,  
and a time for every purpose under heaven:

a time to be born and a time to die,  
a time to plant and a time to uproot,  
a time to kill and a time to heal,  
a time to break down and a time to build,  
a time to weep and a time to laugh,  
a time to mourn and a time to dance,  
a time to cast away stones and a time to gather stones together,  
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,  
a time to search and a time to count as lost,  
a time to keep and a time to discard,  
a time to tear and a time to mend,  
a time to be silent and a time to speak,  
a time to love and a time to hate,  
a time for war and a time for peace.

There is a time for everything. There is a time for summer. And a time for September. And so, as we embark on this new month and wander into this new season together, may we carry the warmth of summer with us and may we embrace the new adventure and joy of the season to come.

From Lorna

## September 2022 News Letter



**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September**    **Holy Communion**    **Trinity 13**  
**11.00am**    Led by: Rev David Jones  
Readings: Deuteronomy 30.v15-20, Philemon v1-21, Luke 14.v25-33

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September**    **Morning Worship**    **Trinity 14**  
**11.00am**    Led by: Rev Lorna Faulkner  
Readings: Exodus 32.v7-14, Luke 15 v1-10

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September**    **Holy Communion**    **Trinity 15**  
**11.00am**    Led by: Rev Lorna Faulkner  
Readings: Amos 8.v4-7, 1 Timothy 2.v1-7, Luke 16.v1-13

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September**    **Harvest Festival**    **Trinity 16**  
**11.00am**    Led by: Becky Parnham  
Readings: Preacher's Choice

### Harvest Giving Sunday

**Food Donations to Maidstone Homeless Care and Families in Need**  
**Financial Donations to Making a Difference to Maidstone (MADM)**

Each Sunday the 11.00am service from Coxheath will be available on zoom <http://bit.ly/UnitedBenefice>

*To everything there is a season,  
and a time for every purpose under heaven.*

*Ecclesiastes 3 v1*

Rev. Lorna Faulkner 01622 439304

Rev. David Jones Hon. Associate Rector 01622 741474

### Church Website

To find out more information about our Benefice and five Benefice Churches go to [www.unitedbenefice.church](http://www.unitedbenefice.church)



## **Good News - Our New Rector – Official Announcement**

“The Bishop of Tonbridge is pleased to announce that The Revd Lorna Clair Faulkner is to be appointed the next Rector of the benefice of Coxheath, East Farleigh, Hunton, Linton and West Farleigh.

Of course, Lorna is very well known to the church family and wider community, having recently completed her curacy in the Benefice and where she has been covering the interregnum. She is looking forward to building on the opportunities she has had already to engage with parish councils, schools, groups and organisations across the five parishes, as well as developing deeper relationships with the church members in this new substantive post.

Lorna trained at St Augustine's, and before ordination was a teacher. Strengthening our links within the local community, including the schools, is important to her, so that all can be encouraged to experience a personal and deepening relationship with God.

Away from her priestly ministry Lorna enjoys reading, spending time with friends, and is hoping to get better at gardening.

Lorna is married to Rich, who is a teacher, and they have 3 older children – 2 adults and a teenager – all living at home still. They hope to move to the Rectory in September following Lorna's final Sunday on 18th September. Lorna will be taking a break before her Licencing on Monday 17th October 2022.

Please hold Lorna and the family in your prayers as they prepare to move and Lorna begins her new ministry in this place.

## **Diary Dates**

### **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September 7.00pm Poppy Making Meeting**

We are hosting a community event in the church to discuss and plan for creating knitted and crocheted poppies to display in the village during November. Anyone who is interested in helping will be very welcome.

### **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September Coffee and Cake on the Green outside the Church**

Instead of our usual September coffee morning in the Scout Hut we'll be holding an event outside the church on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September from 11.00am – 2.00pm with coffee, cake, music and a raffle. Please spread the word and invite family and friends. Everyone is invited

### **October, November and December coffee mornings**

October - there will be no bric-a-brac stall and the next one will be in January  
November – Christmas Gifts Stall December – Food and Drink Raffle

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September Friends of Kent Churches Sponsored Ride and Stride** 50% of the sponsor money raised is donated to this charity and 50% to Holy Trinity Coxheath. If anyone would like to take part in the annual Ride and Stride please contact: Andrew Baker on 07713403527 or if you would like to sponsor him there is a form at the back of the church.

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September 3.00 – 4.00pm Muddy Church at St Nicholas, Linton** Muddy Church is open to anyone and is 'Walking and Wondering' in the open air so weather appropriate clothing is a must.

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 7.30pm PCC Meeting**  
PCC members are reminded that this is the date of the next meeting.

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September 3.00pm at Coxheath**  
**Thanksgiving Service for the Reverend Eileen Doyle at Holy Trinity Church, Coxheath**

An open invitation is extended by the family of Eileen to join them at a thanksgiving service for her life and ministry. After the service there will be refreshments served in the church.

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 9.30am – 12noon Community Coffee Morning at St Nicholas, Linton** All Welcome

**Knife Angel Anti-Violence Sculpture** comes to the Lighthouse Church, Station Road, Maidstone (formerly St Faiths). It will be on the forecourt of the church from the 5<sup>th</sup> September until the 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

## **Group Details**

For up to date details about group meetings please contact the following people:

Children's Work - Becky Parnham 07949 646865  
Men's Prayer Group – Mike Marsh 07595 428639  
Ladies Prayer Group – Dawn Burnell 435882  
Beacon Men – Steve Poole 297144  
Mothers' Union – Margaret Poole 01622 297144 or  
Lesley Marsh 07814 817204

## **Other September Services in the Benefice**

	<b>9.30am Services</b>
Sunday <b>4<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>East Farleigh</b> Morning Worship <b>Hunton</b> Holy Communion
Sunday <b>11<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>West Farleigh</b> Holy Communion <b>Linton</b> Morning Worship
Sunday <b>18<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>East Farleigh</b> Holy Communion <b>Hunton</b> Morning Worship
Sunday <b>25<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>West Farleigh</b> Morning Worship <b>Linton</b> Holy Communion

**Every Thursday 10am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Coxheath**  
**Last Wednesday of each month 12.00pm Holy Communion at Linton**

If you have an item for the October News Letter please contact Marian on 01622 743977 by the **29<sup>th</sup> September** at the latest