



# St Nicholas, Linton

## July 2023

### Services & Events in the Benefice

#### Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June (Trinity 3)

**"Love is the Key"**

**9.30am Holy Communion at Linton**

9.30am Morning Worship at West Farleigh

11am All Age Worship at Coxheath



*All Benefice services in July will be continuing the theme of **The Early Church: How did they do it?** based on **Matthew 16:13-19**. When there is no service at your church why not attend one of the other Benefice churches so that you don't miss out on the teaching.*

#### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July

**"A Broader Vision"**

9.30am Holy Communion at Hunton

9.30am Morning Worship at East Farleigh

11am Holy Communion at Coxheath

#### Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July

**"Submit to One Another"**

**9.30am Morning Worship at Linton**

9.30am Holy Communion at West Farleigh

11am Morning Worship at Coxheath

#### Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July

**"Listening to God"**

9.30am Family Service at Hunton

9.30am Holy Communion at East Farleigh

11am Holy Communion at Coxheath

#### Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

**"Growing in God"**

**9.30am Holy Communion at Linton**

9.30am Morning Worship at West Farleigh

11am All Age Worship at Coxheath

#### Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July

**10.30\_Benefice Communion**

**at All Saints West Farleigh**

with the Archdeacon of Tonbridge, the Ven Sharon Copestake

#### Every Thursday

10am Midweek Holy Communion, Holy Trinity

Coxheath an online <http://bit.ly/ThursdayCommunion>

*Each Sunday the 11am service from Coxheath will be available on Zoom <http://bit.ly/UnitedBeneficeSt>*

#### Matthew 16: 13-19 (Good News Version)

Jesus went to the territory near the town of Caesarea Philippi, where he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" "Some say John the Baptist," they answered. "Others say Elijah, while others say Jeremiah or some other prophet." "What about you?" he asked them. "Who do you say I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." "Good for you, Simon son of John!" answered Jesus. "For this truth did not come to you from any human being, but it was given to you directly by my Father in heaven. And so I tell you, Peter: you are a rock, and on this rock foundation I will build my church, and not even death will ever be able to overcome it. I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of heaven; what you prohibit on earth will be prohibited in heaven, and what you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven."

#### Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July

3-4pm **Muddy Church at St**

**Nicholas Linton**, Contact

Becky for more information:

07949 646865 *Benefice Children & Families*

Worker <https://www.facebook.com/Coxheath-Benefice-Kids-112089254485427/>



#### Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June and 25<sup>th</sup> July

10am to 12 noon Community Coffee Morning in Linton Church. All welcome.



#### Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June and 26<sup>th</sup> July

12 noon Midweek Holy Communion in Linton followed by a light lunch of soup and a roll.

#### Brew and A Bite

Tuesdays 10am – 5pm at Holy Trinity, Coxheath. Pop in for a free warm drink and a bite to eat.

3.30 – 5pm School Run Tuck Shop. Offers of help would be appreciated, please speak to Jen.

#### Pastoral Letter from the Rector

***What is July for?***

I found myself sitting down to write to you this month and this was the question that faced me...

The first half of the year provides us with all kinds of possibilities to think about, New Year and Valentines, Lent, new shoots and the changing of the clocks as Spring arrives, Easter, then the oncoming hope of Summer on the horizon.

Fast-forward to August and we can think about school holidays, then the slow shift towards Autumn, through September into harvest-time and the chill of the nights drawing in, into October – there go the clocks again - then Remembrance and into Advent and Christmas.

***But what is July for?***

It's not leading us anywhere or coming from somewhere. It's a bit of a nothing month in some ways. Or, maybe, its an everything month... A singular moment in time when the peak of the seasonal cycle is upon us; Nature in full splendence is holding the stage, we the audience enthralled by her beauty.

It puts me in mind of the story of creation in the book of Genesis. By the end of chapter 1, God has made it all: Heavens and earth, light and darkness, day and night, sea and sky, sun, moon and stars, plants, fish, birds, animals, people. As God sits back and looks at the fullness of creation at the end of the sixth day, he doesn't think about what to do next – the story tells us that 'God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.'

And perhaps that's the answer to my question – perhaps **that's what July is for**. To remind us that we don't always have to be doing and preparing and shifting and changing. That sometimes we can just let life be and let ourselves live it for a while without worrying about the next thing to do... A pause in the proceedings. A semi-colon in time.

So, this July, whatever is coming up on the horizon of your life... take a moment if you can, let it be, look around; breathe in the beauty.

**God bless you. Lorna**



**During August we will be providing some free pop-up activities for children in the benefice who are in KS2 (years 3-6) at the end of the school year.**

On Wednesday 16th August there will be cookery in Coxheath Scout Hut. Come and try your hand at baking and creating some yummy treats. Limited to 15 children.

On Thursday 17th August there will be music at St Mary's Church, Hunton. Create and decorate your own musical instrument and make music together Limited to 20 children.

On Friday 18th August there will be Fun Olympics at All Saints Church, West Farleigh. Join in some fun team sports and games . Limited to 30 children.

All activities are free, and equipment provided, but places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. All sessions will run 9:30 – 12:30. Bookings will be taken between 3rd – 21st July. Contact Becky Parnham on 07949 646865 or becky.thecat@btopenworld.com

On Saturday 19th everyone who attends any of these events is invited to join us, with their family, at St Nicholas Linton for a celebration and afternoon tea at Messy Church 3-5pm. Where there will be further activities, storytelling and a BBQ. Please indicate on the form the number of people attending. This is not a drop off activity, children will need an adult to stay with them.

### **Children's Society 'Thank You'**

Many thanks to all box holders for your continued support and generosity in supporting vulnerable children and helping ensure that they have a better and safer childhood. The sum raised during 2022 – 2023 was £341.51. If you would like to find out more or become a box holder for the Children's Society by collecting some of your loose change do please speak to Jean Avery.

### **Summer organ recital**

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July  
7.30pm at St Mary's Hunton  
Celebrated International Organist D'Arcy Trinkwon will be playing at Hunton again this summer. He is giving a recital on the wonderful Willis organ in St Mary's Church on Saturday July 8th at 7.30 pm. Wine and refreshments are included. The event, on a balmy summer's evening last year, was extremely popular with those who attended. Tickets at £15 are available from Liz Oliver at liz.oliver25@outlook.com (01622 820200) and Sue Scott at sue@cheveneyfarm.co.uk.

### **OPEN CHURCH**

Linton Church will be open to visitors on Saturday afternoons from 2 – 4pm If you would like to help with this, by spending a quiet hour in the church and welcoming visitors, please speak to Margaret Waller (01622 741236) or Kath (01622 741494.)

### **Rochester Cathedral – Jubilee Table**

until 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024. A 13 metre table made from a 5,000 year old Fenland black oak tree. For more information please refer to the Rochester Cathedral website.

### **Pastoral Support**

#### **"Sometimes we just need someone to listen"**

The Benefice Pastoral Support Team will happily pray for you, or with you, if that is what you would like us to do. Call: 07437 544229 in confidence to speak to one of the team. If there is no answer please leave your name and number. You can also contact us online. <https://unitedbenefice.church/benefice-groups/pastoral-support-team/>

### **BENEFICE CONTACTS**

Revd. Lorna Faulkner, Rector 01622 747570  
Revd. David Jones, Hon. Associate Rector 741474

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

Children's Work	Becky Parnham 07949 646865 <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Coxheath-Benefice-Kids-112089254485427/">https://www.facebook.com/Coxheath-Benefice-Kids-112089254485427/</a>
Men's Prayer Group	Mike Marsh 07595 428639
Ladies Prayer Group	Dawn Burnell
Beacon Men	Steve Poole 01622 297144
Mothers' Union	Margaret Poole 01622 297144 Lesley Marsh 07814 817204

Our Benefice and five Benefice Churches website is

[www.unitedbenefice.church](http://www.unitedbenefice.church)



The United Benefice of Coxheath, East Farleigh,  
Hunton, Linton and West Farleigh