

## Pastoral Letter for July 2023

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 resplendence 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

### Contact Details

Rector Revd. Lorna Faulkner 01622 747570

Revd. David Jones Hon. Associate Rector 741474

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



If you have an item for the August News Letter please contact Marian on 743977 or [david.marian@btinternet.com](mailto:david.marian@btinternet.com) by **Thursday** 27<sup>th</sup> July at the latest (The August news letter will be available on Sunday 30th July)

## Holy Trinity Church

### July 2023



### Today's Church: How might we do it?

**Sunday 2nd July**      **Holy Communion**      **Trinity 4**  
**11.00am** **A Broader Vision**      Led by: Rev David Jones  
Readings: Acts 10.v9-13, Matthew 16.v13-19

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July**      **Morning Worship**      **Trinity 5**  
**11.00am** **Submit to One Another**      Led by: Becky Parnham  
Readings: Philippians 2.v1-18, Matthew 16.v13-19  
**Giving Sunday for young Lives Foundation**

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July**      **Holy Communion**      **Trinity 6**  
**11.00am** **Listening to God**      Led by: Rev Clinton Davis  
Readings: Ephesians 1.v17-21, Matthew 16.v13-19

**Sunday 23rd July**      **All Age Worship**      **Trinity 7**  
**11.00am** **Growing in God**      Led by: Rev Lorna & Becky Parnham  
Readings: Galatians 5.v13-26, Matthew 16.v13-19

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July**      **Benefice Communion**      **Trinity 8**  
**10.30am** **at West Farleigh** with Archdeacon Sharon  
Readings: Acts 2.v42-47, Matthew 16.v13-19

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

*'Who do you say I am?' Simon Peter answered,  
'You are the Messiah the Son of the living God.'*  
Matthew 16.v15-16

## Diary Dates

### Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July 10.00am – 12.00noon Holy Trinity Church Coffee

**Morning** A warm and friendly welcome awaits you at the **Scout HQ, Westerhill Road**. Admission £1 which includes tea/coffee, biscuits and refills. Cakes, cards and bric-a-brac  
Usually members of the Coxheath Parish Council there to chat to



### Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July Giving Sunday for Young Lives Foundation

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

This is held after the morning service and the usual refreshments. Please consider inviting a friend or someone you know who might be on their own at Sunday lunch time to come and enjoy the delicious home made soups. All are welcome.

Contact: Margaret Poole

### Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July 7.00pm Ladies Bring and Share Meal

Please see opposite page for details

### Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July Mental Health First Aid Training

Please see opposite page for details

### Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July 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. Becky Parnham 07949 646865

### Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 10am – 12noon Community Coffee Morning

at St Nicholas, Linton All Welcome

## Other News and Information

### Brew and A Bite Tuesdays 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> July 10am – 5pm

Pop into Holy Trinity, Coxheath for a free warm drink and a bite to eat. 3.30 – 5pm School Run Tuck Shop



### Parking on Sundays

**Heathside**, (on the opposite side of the Heath Road to our church and next to the library) are allowing us to use their car park during our Sunday morning services. This is to help alleviate parking problems when all the spaces are in use outside the church. This is very generous offer and please remember it is just for use during our Sunday morning services.

### Group details

For up to date details about group meetings please refer to the Benefice website [www.unitedbenefice.church](http://www.unitedbenefice.church) or speak to any member of the Benefice Team.

### Children's Society 'Thank You'

Many thanks to all box holders for your continued support and generosity. The money 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 Marian Simpson 743977

## Other Services in the Benefice

	9.30am	
Sunday <b>2nd July</b>	<b>East Farleigh Hunton</b>	Morning Worship Holy Communion
Sunday <b>9<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>West Farleigh Linton</b>	Holy Communion Morning Worship
Sunday <b>16<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>East Farleigh Hunton</b>	Holy Communion Family Service
Sunday <b>23rd July</b>	<b>West Farleigh Linton</b>	Morning Worship Holy Communion
Sunday <b>30<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Benefice Communion at West Farleigh <b>10.30am</b> (No Service at Coxheath)	

**Every Thursday 10am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Coxheath**

**Last Wednesday of each month 12.00pm Holy Communion at Linton**

### Ladies Bring and Share Meal 7pm **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July**

All ladies are welcome to this event to share a meal, chat and for a little entertainment. Please bring something sweet or savoury to share. Soft drinks and tea/coffee will be provided for a £1 donation. Please let Marian S (743977) know if you would like to come by Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July. Look forward to seeing you!

### MHFA (Mental Health First Aid) England Training **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July**

If you are someone who works with or lives with young people, there will be training available for £20pp to carry out a 1-day course on the 14<sup>th</sup> July. This one-day course qualifies you as a Mental Health First Aid Champion with MHFA (Mental Health First Aid) England. To book please contact Jen Tobin [jennyloole@hotmail.com](mailto:jennyloole@hotmail.com) or 07980 784581

### Pop Up Children's Activities **August 2023**

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

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> August - Cookery in Coxheath Scout Hut. Limited to 15 children

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August - Music at St Mary's Church, Hunton. Limited to 20 children

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August - Fun Olympics at All Saints Church, West Farleigh. Limited to 30 children.

The above sessions will run between 9.30 – 12.30

On Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> August 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 3.00- 5.00pm. Activities, storytelling and BBQ.

### **Bookings will be taken between 3<sup>rd</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> July**

Please contact Becky Parnham for booking forms 07949 646865

If you would like to help at any of the activities please contact Becky Parnham