



St Nicholas, Linton September 2023

Services & Events in the Benefice

Sunday 27th August

9.30am Holy Communion at Linton

9.30am Morning Worship at West Farleigh

11am All Age Worship at Coxheath

Sunday 3rd September

No service at Linton

9.30am Holy Communion at Hunton

9.30am Morning Worship at East Farleigh

11am Holy Communion at Coxheath

Sunday 10th August

9.30am Morning Worship at Linton

9.30am Holy Communion at West Farleigh

11am Morning Worship at Coxheath

Sunday 17th September

No service at Linton

9.30am Family Service at Hunton

9.30am Holy Communion at East Farleigh

11am Holy Communion at Coxheath

Sunday 24th September

9.30am Holy Communion at Linton

9.30am Morning Worship at West Farleigh

11am All Age worship (Harvest) at Coxheath

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

Every Thursday

10am Midweek Holy Communion, Holy Trinity Coxheath and online

<http://bit.ly/ThursdayCommunion>

Tuesday 29th August & 26th September



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

Wednesday 30th August & 27th September

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

HARVEST

It is hoped that we will be having a harvest lunch in St Nicholas Church on Sunday 29th October. Early stages of planning yet so speak to Margaret Waller for more information and set the date aside if you would like to come and/or are able to help.



Saturday 9th September

Friends of Kent Churches Ride and Stride Event. Linton Church will be open during the day but If anyone would like to sponsor Andrew Baker who will be riding please contact him on 07713 403527.

10.30am– 2pm Coffee and Cake on the Green outside Holy Trinity Coxheath with music and a raffle. Everyone is invited. If you are able to donate cakes or a raffle prize or help in any way please speak as soon as possible to: Sandra Baker, Helen Gregson or Marian Simpson.

Thursday 7th September

From 6.30pm Beacon Pettanque at the White House Petanque Club, Heath Rd, ME15 0QN West Farleigh. Cost £5 pp . Bar & light refreshments available . This event is open to all. To book a place please contact Mike 07595 428639 or beaconmen.coxheath@gmail.com

Saturday 16th September

6pm Beacon Men BBQ and Bushtucker Evening at Yalding. Please book in via the above Beacon Men details.

OPEN CHURCH

Linton Church is open to visitors on most days for a trial period. Why not come along and spend a few quiet moments in the church. Please sign the visitors book so we know if this facility is being used.

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

Apparently, September is National Honey Month. The bees have been busy all summer and are now beginning to prepare to bed in for the winter. So, in honour of all their hard work, this month's musings are based on that rich, sweet, liquid gold; that miracle of the hive that just tastes so good on a thick crusty slice of toast or stirred into a bowl of creamy porridge. Honey is antibacterial.

Honey comes against the tiny little unseen beasties that burrow their way into wounds and sore places. It cleans out dirt we didn't even know was there. It helps to destroy would-be body-invaders before their nastiness gets a grip on our immune systems. Medical grade honey is applied to septic wounds. Cleansing and healing.

Honey is antioxidant.

Honey, they say, works wonders. Dispersing poison and reversing the effects of it. It rounds up and helps to neutralise the irritants that collect and threaten to damage the fabric of our cells. (Ok, my exact honey science might be a little off, but you get the idea!) Purifying.

Honey is anti-inflammatory.

Honey takes something angry in our system and calms it down. Where our bodies are in state of high alert, ready to fight, stressed and stretched – honey helps to disarm it. Soothing.

I can assure you that it makes a REALLY good skin moisturising mask too. Brightening and softening.

Honey also gets a few mentions in the Bible. Here's one of my favourites:

'Gracious words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body.' Proverbs 16:24

If gracious words are like honeycomb, dripping with goodness, what might happen when we choose to use gracious words?

- Gracious words are antibacterial – they can come against the little niggles of life that seek to infect our friendships and families.
- Gracious words are antioxidant – they can help flush out the poison meant to damage and destroy

a person's sense of well-being, self-worth and security.

- Gracious words are anti-inflammatory – they can take a situation loaded with stress and confrontation – a situation threatening to develop into something nasty - and calm it. Disarming us, and others.
- Gracious words soften hard places and brighten our view of the world and the people around us.
- Gracious words are good for us. They're good for the soul – for the mind and heart. And what's good for the soul is good for the whole person.

So, let's mark National Honey month in our homes and communities by gracing one another's lives with some sweet and gracious words in these coming weeks. Happy September to you all! **Lorna**

During August the Benefice children and Families' team headed by Becky provided and enjoyed some free pop-up activities for children in the benefice in school years 3-6 in 4 of the 5 Benefice churches. Some photos are available if you want to see what a great time was had by all. Ask Becky.

The logo consists of the words "POP" and "UP" stacked vertically in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The letters are slightly tilted to the right.

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.

Rochester Cathedral – Jubilee Table

until 1st 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 https://www.facebook.com/Coxheath-Benefice-Kids-112089254485427/
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

The logo features a stylized map of the benefice area with colored regions in red, blue, yellow, and green.

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