

Pastoral Letter for September 2023

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! Rev Lorna Faulkner

Holy Trinity Church September 2023



Sunday 3rd September **Holy Communion** **Trinity 13**
11.00am

Led by: Rev Lorna Faulkner

Readings: Exodus 3.v1-15, Romans 12.v9-21, Matthew 16.v21-28

Sunday 10th September **Morning Worship** **Trinity 14**
11.00am

Led by: Rev Lorna Faulkner

Readings: Exodus 12.v1-14, Matthew 18.v15-20

Sunday 17th September **Holy Communion** **Trinity 15**
11.00am

Led by: Rev David Jones

Readings: Exodus 14.v19-31, Romans 14.v1-12, Matthew 18.v21-35

Sunday 24th September **Harvest Festival** **Trinity 16**
11.00am **All Age Worship** Led by: Rev Lorna & Becky Parnham

Readings: Preachers Choice

Coffee and Cake on the Green outside the church

Saturday 9th September from 10.30am – 2.00pm with coffee, cake, music and a raffle. Everyone is invited

Help needed!



- If you are able to bake some cakes for the cake stall that would be great (please state if nuts are included)
- There is going to be a Food and Drink Raffle and donations would be very welcome.
- Offers to help on the day – the more the merrier!
- Help to transport tables and chairs from Linton

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

Many thanks

Diary Dates

Thursday 7th September From 6.30pm Beacon Men Petanque

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

Saturday 9th September 10.30am – 2.00pm Coffee and Cake on the grassed area

outside the Church Please see the front page for further details

All proceeds towards the church floor and drainage repairs

Saturday 9th September Friends of Kent Churches Ride and Stride Event

If anyone would like to take part in the annual Ride and Stride please contact Andrew Baker on 07713403527

Saturday 16th September 3.00 – 5.00pm 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

Saturday 16th September 6pm Beacon Men BBQ and Bushtucker Evening at

Yalding. Please book in via the above Beacon Men details

Sunday 24th September Harvest Festival all Age Worship

Harvest Breakfast 9:45am at Holy Trinity - Prior to the All Age Worship Service at 11 am. More details to follow

Harvest Giving

Food gifts for Maidstone Homeless Care and Families in Need

Financial gifts for Making a Difference to Maidstone (MADM)

Tuesday 26th September 10am – 12noon Community Coffee Morning

at St Nicholas, Linton All Welcome

Saturday 14 October 6 30pm Quiz Evening at the Scout Hut

£5 per person please bring your own drinks and nibbles.

All proceeds towards the church floor and drainage repairs

Please speak to Barry Doyle for more details 07480292437

Other News and Information

Building work update

The repair work to the chancel floor is now underway and when completed the outside work on the drainage system will begin.

The Church building is important to us all so we are asking you to consider how you can help, perhaps by increasing your regular giving, or giving an extra one-off gift? Maybe you could also run a fund-raising event for us.

Please speak to Tim Gregson our Treasurer or any member of the PCC if you can help. Tim can be contacted on 01622 741501 or at timmers@live.co.uk.

Holy Trinity PCC

Other Services in the Benefice

	9.30am	
Sunday 3 rd September	East Farleigh Hunton	Morning Worship Holy Communion
Sunday 10 th September	West Farleigh Linton	Holy Communion Morning Worship
Sunday 17 th September	East Farleigh Hunton	Holy Communion Family Service
Sunday 24 th September	West Farleigh Linton	Morning Worship Holy Communion

Each Sunday the 11.00am service from Coxheath will

be available on zoom <http://bit.ly/UnitedBenefice>

Every Thursday 10am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Coxheath

Last Wednesday of each month 12.00 noon Holy Communion at Linton

Pastoral Support

We have a pastoral visiting group within the Benefice. If you or someone you know would like a visit or if you would like more information please go to <https://unitedbenefice.church/benefice-groups/pastoral-support-team/>

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

Beacon Men – Steve Poole 07904 212245

Mothers' Union – Margaret Poole 07729 176762 or

Lesley Marsh 07814 817204

Threads Through Creation at Rochester Cathedral 29th July – 3rd September

A spectacular sequence of 12 huge textile panels re telling the Creation Story. Free Admission. See Rochester Cathedral web site for further details

Contact Details

Rector Revd. Lorna Faulkner 01622 747570

Revd. David Jones Hon. Associate Rector 741474

Benefice website www.unitedbenefice.church



If you have an item for the **October News Letter** please contact Marian on 743977 or david.marian@btinternet.com by **Thursday** 28th September at the latest