

Pastoral Letter for July 2024

The month of July was always a special month when I was teaching. The school examinations were over, reports were being written, the interhouse cricket, rounders, athletics and swimming events took place and the school seemed to more relaxed. However, the truth was probably that the children certainly relaxed but the teachers became a little frazzled with report writing, parents evenings and the changes in teaching rhythm and July seemed to go on for ever. But we had the start of the long summer holiday to look forward to.

Since my retirement some 25 years ago now, July has lost a great deal of that eager forward looking to feeling. We used to hear about how much cheaper holidays were outside school holidays. I never found that true but isn't that true of so many things we look forward to for, when it happens it's never the same as we expected. Sometime better but not always. So, for me July was never the holiday month but the time for looking forward, enjoying the bright hot days, the longer evenings and preparing to relax before the start of a new school year in September.

You know we need patterns to our lives, times to become busy, times to maintain a steadiness in life and also times to look forward so that our batteries can be recharged.

It's interesting to read the stories of Jesus in the light of his pattern. He seemed to be always surrounded by crowds demanding his attention and then times, we are told, when he went looking for peace and quiet, time to think, time to reflect but above all time to look forward, refreshed, recharged and renewed, ready to move on in his life

Enjoy July and hopefully we will be prepared for a restful and refreshing August before the cycle continues into the autumn and another year. There that me back in 'teacher mode'

Have a good holiday whenever it comes.

David

Contact Details

Rector Revd. Lorna Faulkner 01622 747570

Revd. David Jones Hon. Associate Rector 01622 741474



August News Letter If you have an item for the August letter, please contact Marian 743977 or david.marian@btinternet.com **BEFORE 25th July**

Holy Trinity Church July 2024



Sunday 7th July 11.00am	Holy Communion Ezekiel 2.v1-5, 2 Corinthians 12.v2-10, Mark 6.v1-13	6th after Trinity Led by: Rev Clinton Davis
Sunday 14th July 11.00am	Morning Worship Readings: Ephesians 1.v3-14, Mark 6.v14-29 Giving Sunday supporting Crossroads Care Maidstone	7th after Trinity Led by: Becky Parnham
Sunday 21st July 11.00am	Holy Communion Readings: Jeremiah 23.v1-6, Ephesians 2.v11-22, Mark 6.v30-34,53-56	8th after Trinity Led by: Rev David Jones
Sunday 28th July 10.30am	Benefice Communion Summer Safari 1 Who are we? Readings: Psalm 122, 1 Corinthians 12.v12-27, Matthew 16.v13-20	9th after Trinity Led by: Rev David Jones

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

To find out more information about our Benefice and five Benefice Churches go to www.unitedbenefice.church which also includes useful links

Diary Dates

Sunday 7th July 2.30 – 5.00pm Berries and Bells at St Mary’s, Hunton
Strawberry Cream Teas, Cakes and Bells

Saturday 13th 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 free tea/coffee and biscuits. You can buy from the popular cake, bric-a-brac and card stalls.



There are usually members of the Coxheath Parish Council there to chat to.

Sunday 14th July Giving Sunday supporting Crossroads Care Maidstone

Sunday 14th July Soup on Sunday

This will be held after the morning service and the usual refreshments. Please consider inviting someone else who might be on their own for Sunday lunch

Saturday 20th 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.

Sunday 21st July 3.00 – 5.00pm Strawberry Tea

Mothers’ Union is hosting a Strawberry Tea to which all are welcome. There will be a small charge to cover costs. Further details from Margaret P 07729 176762

Tuesday 30th July 10.00am – 12noon Community Coffee Morning at St Nicholas, Linton All Welcome

Saturday 14th September An early date for your diary

Coffee and Cake on the Green outside the church 10.00am – 1.00pm

Coffee/tea, cake, bric-a-brac, music and a raffle. Everyone is invited

Tuesdays and Thursdays Brew and a Bite at Holy Trinity, Coxheath

We are open during **school term times** every Tuesday 2.30pm – 5.00pm and Thursdays 11am – 1.00pm. There is no charge but you are invited to give a donation if you so wish. If you would be willing to help occasionally making tea and chatting to folk at Brew and a Bite please speak to Jen Tobin

News and Other Information

Service Arrangements for August

During August there will be no Sunday Services at Coxheath. Instead there will be Benefice Communion Services around the Benefice Churches as a Summer Safari. (Safari 1 is at Coxheath on the 28th July)

4th August - Safari 2 at East Farleigh

11th August - Safari 3 at West Farleigh

18th August - Safari 4 at Hunton

25th August - Safari 5 at Linton

Please speak to Sandra or Jen if you would like a lift to any of these services.

Coffee and Cake Event Saturday 14th September

As there won’t be any Sunday Services at Coxheath during August we are starting early to plan for this event.

- If you are able to bake some cakes or savories 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. There will be a box at the back of the church from July for donations
- Offers of help at the event with setting up, clearing up or helping on a stall – the more the merrier!
- Use of a van or large car to transport tables and chairs

If you can help in any way please speak as soon as possible to: Sandra Baker, Helen Gregson or Marian Simpson. Many thanks



Oh no Jonah! Holiday Club on Tuesday 13th August

9.30am – 3.00pm A free event at Holy Trinity, Coxheath with games, food, crafts and stories for children in school years 1 – 6. For a booking form and

to book a place please email becky.thecat@btopenworld.com

Children’s Society ‘Thank You’

Many thanks to all box holders for your continued support and generosity. The money raised during 2023 – 2024 was £358.30. Sadly, the number of our supporters are decreasing so if you would like to find out more or become a box holder for the Children’s Society by collecting some of your change during the year, do please speak to Marian S 743977

Donations received for the Village Hall Fete

The village hall committee were really pleased with the gifts for their fete on the 6th of July. Thanks, have been expressed for the generosity and support of the congregation.

Benefice Services

	9.30am	
Sunday 7th July	East Farleigh Hunton	Morning Worship Holy Communion
Sunday 14th July	West Farleigh Linton	Holy Communion Morning Worship
Sunday 21st July	East Farleigh Hunton	Holy Communion Family Service
Sunday 28th July	10.30am	Benefice Communion at Coxheath