

Pastoral Letter for August 2025

August arrives at our doorstep like a gentle friend, draped in golden sunlight and humming with the steady music of crickets. The fields, once emerald, now blush with the promise of harvest. Gardens bow under the abundance of tomatoes, beans, and sunflowers, while the orchard branches grow heavy with plums and early apples.

This is the month when the world slows in a warm embrace. The mornings begin to cool, soft dew clinging to the grass; spiderwebs sparkling like tiny jewels. The heat of the summer afternoon sun, the touch of sun-scorched grass under our feet, calling us back to the endless, open joy of our childhood school holidays. Evenings invite us to linger with friends on doorsteps, or in gardens, sharing stories as the sun sinks behind golden fields. August, the golden heart of summer.

August is a time for gratitude and gathering—a season for picnics, and market stalls brimming with produce - inviting us to savour the beauty woven through simple days: the patient labour of the allotments and gardens, the cheerful hum of bees, and the comfort of friendships old and new – reminding us to treasure the richness of life while we can lay our hands on it. As we move through these golden days, may we remember to pause and cherish the blessings we have in our village communities – the land, the people, the gentle rhythms.

August reminds us that, even as autumn comes whispering to us in the misty mornings, and the rosehips and damsons begin to adorn the hedges, summer's generosity is at its height – it is there to be enjoyed, to be celebrated and to be shared.

Wishing everyone a blessed and abundant August.

Lorna

Contact Details

Rector Revd. Lorna Faulkner 01622 747570

Revd. David Jones Hon. Associate Rector 01622 741474

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

September News Letter If you have an item for the letter, please contact Marian on 743977 or david.marian@btinternet.com **BEFORE Wednesday 27th August**



Holy Trinity Church

Benefice Summer Safari August 2025



Sunday 3rd August

Private Prayer 9:30 – 10:00am **EAST FARLEIGH**
Benefice Communion 10:30am **ST MARY'S HUNTON**
Evening Service 6:00pm **HOLY TRINITY, COXHEATH**

Sunday 10th August

Private Prayer 9:30–10:00am **ALL SAINTS, WEST FARLEIGH**
Benefice Communion 10:30am **ST NICHOLAS, LINTON**
Evening Prayer 6:00pm **HOLY TRINITY, COXHEATH**

Sunday 17th August

Private Prayer 9:30 – 10:00am **ST MARY'S, HUNTON**
Benefice Holy Communion 10:30am **EAST FARLEIGH**
Evening Prayer 6:00pm **HOLY TRINITY, COXHEATH**

Sunday 24th August

Private Prayer 9:30 – 10:00am **ST NICHOLAS LINTON**
Benefice Communion 10:30am **ALL SAINTS, WEST FARLEIGH**
Evening Prayer 6:00pm **HOLY TRINITY, COXHEATH**

Sunday 31st August

Benefice All-age Holy Communion 10:30am
HOLY TRINITY, COXHEATH
Back to School Blessing 4:00pm
HOLY TRINITY, COXHEATH

'His standards are higher than we think; but he is kinder than we believe, and more patient and gentle than we know.'

(words given to us by Lorna in a recent Sunday sermon)

Weekday Services

Every Thursday 10am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Coxheath
2nd Wednesday of the month 12 noon Holy Communion at Linton

Diary Dates

1st – 31st August Rochester Cathedral

Celebrate Medways aviation history this August at Rochester Cathedral. A newly restored Short Scion Floatplane will be displayed in the Cathedral Nave. Alongside it will be free family activities and an exhibition about the Short brothers. Please see the Rochester Cathedral website for more information and opening times.

Saturday 9th August 10.00am – 12.00noon Holy Trinity Church Coffee Morning 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 Parish Council to chat with.

Tuesday 12th August 9.30 – 3.00pm Holiday Club at Holy Trinity, Coxheath



Oh Dear Daniel!

School Years 1 – 6

To book a place asap speak to Becky Parnham or email –

becky.thecat@btopenworld.com or

Web – <https://unitedbenefice.church/>

Tuesday 26th August 10.00am – 12noon

Community Coffee Morning at St Nicholas, Linton All Welcome

Sunday 7th September 3.00pm Concert at St Nicholas, Linton

Linton are pleased to be welcoming the Kent Police Male Voice Choir. Please contact Kath Cooper to book tickets 07876101390. Suggested donation of £15 to include refreshments.

Saturday 13th September Holy Trinity, Coxheath

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

Refreshments, food and drink raffle, bric-a-brac, activities for young people and live music!

Saturday 13th September Friends of Kent Churches Ride and Stride Event

50% of the sponsor money raised is donated to this charity and 50% to Holy Trinity, Coxheath. If anyone would like to take part in the annual Ride and Stride, please contact Sandra Baker for further information

No Brew and a Bite during August

When the children have returned to school in September Brew and a Bite will resume on the 9th September.

News and Other Information

If you require a lift to any of the August services please speak to Jen Tobin (Church Warden)

Coffee and Cake Event Saturday 13th September

- 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 for donations
- Offers of help at the event with setting up, clearing up or helping on a stall – the more the merrier!

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

Thanks

Thank you to those who donated to our Giving Sunday supporting the work of Blackthorn Trust. £345 has been forwarded to the charity which included a donation from church funds.

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/>

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

Benefice Safeguarding Officer - Margaret Poole 07729 176762

*God is our refuge and strength,
An ever-present help in trouble*

Psalm 46 v1