

Pastoral Letter for September 2025

Dear friends,

I have what most would say is a big birthday coming up in September. When I was 50, I remember it being said that 50 is the new 40, and when I was 60 it was said that 60 is the new 50! I recently read that 70 is apparently the new 53! Research cited in the IMF's World Economic Outlook, based on samples in 41 countries, suggested the average 70-year-old in 2022 had the same cognitive ability as a 53-year-old in 2000!

Rather than big birthdays though, I am thinking about all the youngsters who have big events happening, like starting school, moving to big school, leaving school and starting apprenticeships or work, or going off to college or university. Massive events in these young lives.

This time of year can be difficult, too, for parents having to buy school uniforms and it can be emotional when children go to school for the first time or youngsters leave home to go to college or university.

Do you remember when you first went to school or college or started work? Was it a good experience? Do you look back with fondness or would you rather forget it? Bad experiences can affect people for a very long time, sometimes for their whole lives. That's why it is important that we all help our children and young people have the best experiences possible, because they are very precious.

Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a real blessing. Psalm 127:3
(Good News Translation)

You might not have any children, but you may be an auntie or uncle, or a neighbour to a family, or a friend. Do help our young people have good experiences that they will remember with joy and affection. Be a listening ear when they need to talk. Pray for them, they grow up so fast.

Big birthdays might be celebrated but when all is said and done 70 is just a number.

Am I bothered? Nah!

Enjoy the rest of September.

Blessings, Sue Elliott - Pastoral Assistant

October News Letter If you have an item for the letter, please contact Marian on 743977 or david.marian@btinternet.com **BEFORE Wednesday 24th September**

Holy Trinity Church September 2025



Sunday 7th September Holy Communion 13th after Pentecost
11.00am Led by: Rev David Jones

Readings: Deuteronomy 30 v15-20, Philemon v1-21, Luke 14 v25-33

Sunday 14th September Morning Worship 14th after Pentecost
11.00am Led by: Rev Lorna Faulkner

Readings: Exodus 32 v7-14, Luke 15 v1-10

Sunday 21st September Holy Communion 15th after Pentecost
11.00am Led by: Rev Lorna Faulkner

Readings: Amos 8 v4-7, 1 Timothy 2 v1-7, Luke 16 v1-13

Giving Sunday supporting Involve

Sunday 28th September All Age Worship 16th after Pentecost
11.00am Led by: Rev Lorna & Becky Parnham

Readings: Deuteronomy 26 v1-11, Philippians 4 v4-9, John 6 v25-35

Giving - Gifts of food for Homeless Care and Families in Need

Every Thursday 10am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Coxheath

2nd Wednesday of the month 12 noon Holy Communion at Linton

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

Diary Dates

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

Linton are pleased to be welcoming the Kent Police Male Voice Choir. Tickets will soon be available from Kath Cooper 07876101390. Suggested donation of £15 to include refreshments.

From the 9th September Brew and a Bite on Tuesdays at Holy Trinity

We are open during **school term times every Tuesday** 12 noon-7.00pm. From 5.30 – 7.00pm this is a time specifically for a youth group in school years 7 -13 There is no charge but you are invited to give a donation if you so wish.

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! Please spread the word and support this event.

Saturday 13th September Friends of Kent Churches Sponsored 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

Wednesday 17th September 12noon at Holy Trinity “Bring and Share” Lunch

At our next Mothers Union meeting we will be having a speaker who will cover topics relating to Wills, Trusts, Powers of Attorney, Inheritance Tax, Care Fees, and Sideways disinheritance. The speaker, offering the talk for the community, guarantees a touch of humour alongside crucial insights of Estate Planning, with Q&A time.

If you are interested in any of the above topics we invite you to join us. There will be food available, tea/coffee (no charge.) Contact Lesley for more info.

Saturday 20th September 6.30 pm Next Beacon Men Event

A tasty BBQ around a fire pit hosted by chef James at his garden in Hunton . Good food, conversations and company assured. Please book in by contacting Mike on 07595 428639 or emailing: beaconmen.coxheath@gmail.com

Sunday 21st September Giving Sunday

Giving Sunday supporting the work of Involve

Sunday 28th 10.30am Harvest Breakfast in Church – all welcome

Tuesday 30th September 10.00am – 12noon

Community Coffee Morning at St Nicholas, Linton. All Welcome

Saturday 18th October Church Quiz Night 6.45 pm for 7 pm start at Coxheath

Scout HQ, Westerhill Road. £10 for a table of 6

Please bring your own drinks and food. Nibbles and prizes provided.

Quizmaster will be Steve Parnham.

Why not start gathering your team now and book in by contacting Mike 07595 428639 or Steve 07904 212245 or email to beaconmen.coxheath@gmail.com

Other News and Information

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
- Good quality or nearly new bric a brac can be brought to church on Sunday 7th September (sorry no furniture)
- 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

Harvest Breakfast

Everyone is welcome to join us for a harvest buffet breakfast starting at 10:30 on Sunday 28th September leading into an All- Age Harvest service at 11am.

Harvest Gifts

Gifts of food will be collected at the service and donated to Homeless Care and for Families in Need (Knightrider Street) Any gifts will be gratefully received but these are some suggestions:- Tinned meals (stew, curry, pasta, soup etc) Tinned vegetables & fruit. Pasta, rice, and noodles. Cereals, long-life milk. Tea, coffee, sugar. Biscuits and snacks

Lending Library

Holy Trinity now offers a small lending library. Whether you are new to Christianity, exploring your beliefs, or seeking guidance and encouragement in our ever-changing world the library provides resources that may be of interest to you. There is a book to sign in when you borrow and then for when you return a library book.

Benefice Services

	9.30am	
Sunday 7 th September	East Farleigh Hunton	Morning Worship Holy Communion
Sunday 14 th September	West Farleigh Linton	Holy Communion Morning Worship
Sunday 21 st September	East Farleigh Hunton	Holy Communion Family Service
Sunday 28 th September	West Farleigh Linton	Morning Worship Holy Communion