

Sunday 25th February

2nd Sunday of Lent

10am: Holy Communion

Revd Sandy Southee

Duty Warden/Chalice: Richard

Sound: Mike

Music: David

Reader: Anna

Sides: Maxine and Pat

Refreshments: Helen

Saturday Coffee

11am - 12 noon

24th February - Brenda

Church is closed after coffee



Celebration of Life - Alan Arnot

Many of you will remember Alan, who was one of our regular organists before the pandemic. His life will be

celebrated at a special service at 3pm on Sunday 18 Feb at Spring-

Please Pray

For Sally, Brian, Joan, Anna, Greta, Sheila, Nicky, Amelia, Val, Audrey, Mary, Catherine, Revd Suzanne, Arthur.

We remember:

Renée Kinsman (19.02.2000)

Revd Llewellyn Milliner (20.02.2009)

Martin Buck (22.02.2013)

Parish Roads:


We also pray this month for those living and working in:

Lime Walk, Linden Close,

Linnet Drive, Longstomps Avenue,

Lucas Avenue

Living Light

The Aumbry Light in February has been sponsored in memory of Sheila Rolland  Donald (Don) Hodgson

Edward Bear is on half-term holiday

Contacts

Priest in Charge

Revd Stephanie Gillingham
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Associate Priest:

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Churchwarden:

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Parish Safeguarding Officer: Sue 07708 296804

Treasurer:

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Newsletter Content

If you have any items for the Newsletter (including requests for prayer) contact Janette Tadman - janettetadman@gmail.com or 07749 298639

Sunday 18th February

1st Sunday of Lent

10am: Morning Worship

Richard Field

'With the end in mind...'

Duty Warden/Sound: Helen

Music: David

Sides: Louise and Chris

Refreshments: Brenda

Collect

Heavenly Father,
your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Weekday Prayers

Tuesdays at 2pm

Disabled access

Pray for Palestine and Israel

O God of all justice and peace, we cry out to you in the midst of the pain and trauma of violence and fear which prevails in the Holy Land.

Be with those who need you in these days of suffering;
we pray for people of all faiths - Jews, Muslims and Christians and for all people of the land.

While we pray to you, O Lord, for an end to violence and the establishment of peace, we also call to you to bring justice and equity to the peoples.

Guide us into your kingdom where all people are treated with dignity and honour as your children - for to all of us you are our Heavenly Father.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen

Birthdays:

*"Happy Birthday to you: to Jesus be true.
May God's richest blessing rest today upon you."*

Financial Giving Please do support St Luke's using one of the options below:

- Regular giving through the Parish Giving Scheme - see noticeboard for information
- One-off online donations accessed via the St Luke's website homepage
- Contactless card reader available at the back of church

Genesis 9:8-17

⁸ Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him: ⁹ "I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you ¹⁰ and with every living creature that was with you—the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals, all those that came out of the ark with you—every living creature on earth. ¹¹ I establish my covenant with you: Never again will all life be destroyed by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth." ¹² And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: ¹³ I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴ Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, ¹⁵ I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life. ¹⁶ Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth." ¹⁷ So God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth."

1 Peter 3:18-end

¹⁸ For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. ¹⁹ After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits— ²⁰ to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, ²¹ and this water symbolises baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

Lent Course

Revd Stephanie will be leading a Lent Course at St Luke's starting this week on five Wednesdays, 7pm–9pm. The group study course will be based on Nick Fawcett's Spot the Difference book and considers what difference does being a Christian make to your life and what difference should it make? The dates are: 21 Feb, 6 Mar, 13 Mar, 20 Mar and 27 Mar.

MLMC are also running a 5 week Lent Course on Tuesdays at 2.30pm from 20 Feb entitled 'Exploring God's Mercy'.

PCC Key Messages

The following key messages are from the recent PCC meetings:

- We have committed to participating in Eco Church. This will help us to demonstrate our care for God's creation. Sue Davies has agreed to lead our work. We will be looking at all aspects of our church and individual life, from worship to buildings to community and global engagement and lifestyle. Watch out for more information in future newsletters!
- We have been successful in the first stage of diocesan approval for the large hall roof works. The work is likely to cost in the region of £50,000 and we will need to do some significant fundraising. Please encourage your friends and neighbours to get involved. We identified several fundraising activities that will run between now and the summer, including:
 - ◇ Winter fuel allowance donations - Thank you to those who have already made a donation from their winter fuel payment.
 - ◇ Smartie Challenge - launched at the Pancake Party
 - ◇ Afternoon Cream Teas on 6 May - we have successfully applied for a significant donation of clotted cream and jam!
 - ◇ Sponsoring a plank (or part of the roof!)
 - ◇ Auction of Time and Talents
- Our APCM will be after the service on 28 April. There will be some vacancies, including PCC secretary, so please pray about whether God is calling you to join the PCC.
- There is much to give thanks for at St Luke's and also a great need for prayer, especially Revd Suzanne's health and our large hall roof works.

Pancakes and Smarties

Thank you to everyone who helped with our Pancake Party last week. We served about 60 pancakes to young and old, with some very tasty looking fillings (!) and there was a hive of activity on the craft table too. We also launched our Smartie Challenge as part of our fundraising campaign to raise funds for repairing the large hall roof. The challenge involves taking a tube of smarties, eating them, filling the tube with £1 or 20p coins and returning it to us. We have plenty of Smartie tubes so please do take one or two, either for yourself or to give to children, grandchildren or friends and encourage them to take part. There are flyers explaining all about the challenge.

New Tables

We hope you like our new-to-us coffee tables at the back of church gifted to us by Pleshey Retreat House.