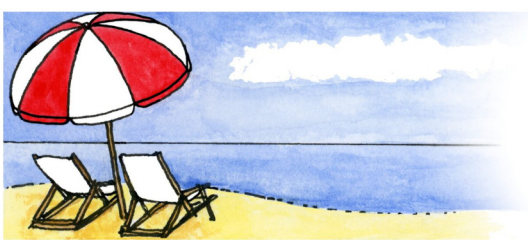


Parish Magazine

St. Leonard's and St. Luke's Churches



August-September 2023
Suggested donation **£1.00**


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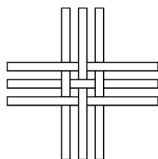
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SEAFORD PARISH CHURCH

ST LEONARD'S AND ST LUKE'S

Welcome

60 Years since... "I Have a Dream"

Sixty years ago, on 28th August 1963, Dr Martin Luther King Jr delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial during the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. The civil rights rally was attended by about 200,000 supporters, including many A-list film celebrities released temporarily by their studios.

His words influenced the Federal government to take more direct action to create racial equality, in for instance the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Voting Rights Act of 1965 and the Fair Housing Act of 1968.

King had been advised not to use the Dream format at Washington. He had used the idea before, and his adviser, the Revd Wyatt Tee Walker, described it as "hackneyed and trite". The idea was to use a new speech with the theme "normalcy never again". But King was prompted by gospel singer Mahalia Jackson to re-use the Dream idea, and he went ahead with it, much to Walker's dismay. But it had a huge impact and is now regarded as perhaps one of the most influential speeches in American history.

Martin Luther King Jr, born in 1929, was an American Baptist minister who became one of the most prominent leaders in the American civil rights movement from 1955 until his assassination, apparently by James Earl Ray, on 4th April 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee.

The autopsy revealed that although he was only 39 years old, King "had the heart of a 60-year-old". He had said shortly before being shot that he was not afraid of dying.

On 14th October 1964, King had won the Nobel Peace Prize for combating racial inequality through non-violent resistance.

Parish News

St Luke's @7

St. Luke's@7 is taking a break in August but will be back on Sunday 24th September. We gather beforehand at 5:45pm for supper together. Everyone is welcome, just contact Kate Steer.

Coffee, Prayer Ministry & Communion

You are welcome to join in our next Service of Prayer Ministry with Communion at St. Luke's on Tuesdays 8th & 22nd August and 12th & 26th September at 11.00am. Coffee will be available from 10.00am to 12.00pm

Seaford Parish Women's Group

Seaford Parish Women's Group will not have a formal meeting in August and will reconvene on the Monday 18th September in St Luke's at 7.30pm. However, we will have a social lunch on 14th August, please contact Julia on 01323 895073 for further details. Please note that Women's Group now only meet on the 3rd Monday of the month, unless advised of additional meetings.

Parish Lunch

Parish Lunch will meet next on Wednesday 6th September in St Luke's from 12.30. To book a place please call Sue on 01323 490415 or Julia on 01323 895073. We serve a hot meal followed by dessert, tea or coffee for just £6.00, and the added enjoyment of eating together with friends.

The Meeting Place

The Meeting Place will be taking a break during August and September.

Parish Magazine

The copy date for the October-November edition of the Parish Magazine is Tuesday 12th September. Items of news and articles of interest are most welcome and should be sent to magazine@seafordparish.org.uk. The magazine will be published as usual on Sunday 24th September.

Fortnightly News

The regular news sheets with updates and reminders is published every two weeks. You can also receive this as an email. Please do ensure that you are receiving this. If you are not on our e-mail list you can sign up through our website at www.seafordparish.org.uk.

Women's Intercession & Bible Day

Any women interested in Biblical intercession are invited to a Women's Intercession and Bible Day on Saturday October 14th from 10.00am to 4.00pm at Seaford Baptist Church. There will be two sessions with a lunch break between. The day will be led by Gay Hyde who leads these events throughout the UK. There is no charge though a thank offering will be taken, drinks will be available but please bring a packed lunch if you plan to stay for the day. For further information please contact Sally Crowther on 01323

890207 or by email at sallyanddavid.crowther@gmail.com. Gay comes from Eastbourne and is a member of Gateway Church Hampden Park and has been leading these days for 20 years. Esther 4: 14 speaks of God's call to intercede for our nation for such a time as this .

Safeguarding Training

Chichester Diocese is not going to offer anymore face-to-face training for CO and C1, but after much thought and lobbying, they have agreed that we can use the on-line courses with groups of people. We have missed the group training we were able to have prior to Covid, and I congratulate anyone who has persevered and completed the training on-line on their own, despite the challenges of technology. But to be able to complete it again in a group, feels so much better, and gives opportunities for us to have discussions between the modules. I have recently completed the training myself again, and found it to be interesting and thought provoking.

So we are going to run two sessions on October 14th and 15th, and are hoping as many people as possible will come along. Given our mantra that Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility, we would love as many members of the congregation as possible to attend one of those sessions. All PCC members, people with permission to officiate, deacons, workers with children and anyone who leads the various fields of mission the church offers, must complete the

training. However we also want to include people who are church sitters, coffee makes, members of the prayer group, welcomers at the door, anyone involved in pastoral care visits to people at home or in residential care, those who lead services in homes or make holy communion visits etc. In fact everyone in the congregation would be most welcome, because safeguarding is not just about what happens in church, it must also be part of our every day lives in the community. This does not of course, stop people doing the course individually on line, or you can do both!

We have to renew our training every three years, so we hope to offer this training regularly. But if you think your training will have been more than three years ago in the next few months, please put these dates in your diary.

- Saturday 14th October from 10.00 to 12.30 at St. Leonard's
- Sunday 15th October from 11.00am to 1.30pm at St Luke's.

Coffee, the best biscuits and lively debate will be included. Many thanks again for all your support.



Parish News

Prayer Ministry Day *Saturday 30th September*

Who is it for?

Anyone and Everyone, whether you are already involved in Prayer Ministry, would like to be or just want to know more about it and how to receive it.

Where is it?

St. Luke's Church. It will be an all day event. Bring your own lunch. Tea and Coffee provided.

What is it about?

One of our most important values as a church is our belief in the power of God to heal and restore our lives and the lives of others spiritually, emotionally and physically. We also believe that he uses our humble prayers as directed by the Holy Spirit to accomplish this. We call this 'prayer ministry' which means that we pray for an individual, asking the Holy Spirit to direct our prayers rather than relying on our own thoughts or ideas.

We want to be able to offer prayer ministry at the end of all our services at both churches, and to do this we need teams of people who are trained to offer prayer in a sensitive and respectful way. We have therefore invited the Rev Rich Thomas, Vicar of Saint Philip's, Tunbridge Wells and Regional Director for New Wine for

the South East to lead a training day. This will be advertised as a New Wine training event so members of other churches in the area will hopefully be joining us.

Is this for me?

If you have never prayed in this way and would like to learn how to, or you are already involved or have been doing it for years, or you are just interested in finding out more, please put the date in your diary and come along! There is nothing magic about it, it's just listening to our Father in heaven and allowing him to do the work. It should be a fun day as well as instructional so do plan to come along.

Look out for further details in the pew sheet and on the website as they are finalised. This is a free event but you will need to book a place.



From the Registers

Funerals

Thomas Riley
Peter Ingram

Weddings

Charlotte Jenkins &
Charlie Ware

Summer Programme of Children, Youth & Family Events

Tots' Treats* (St. Luke's): Wednesday
2nd & 9th August

Tots' Treats* (St. Leonard's): Thursday
17th & 24th August

(*Feel free to bring older children to these sessions)

Family Beach Church (near Martello Tower): Each Sunday in August from 11.00am to 12.00pm.

Family Craft & Cake Day (at St Luke's): Thursday 10th August from 10.00am to 12.30pm

Family Games & BBQ (at St Luke's): Friday 18th August from 12.30pm to 3.00pm



Return to normal dates for after summer holidays:

Glow (St. Luke's): Sunday 3rd
September

Tots' Treats (St. Luke's): Wednesday
6th September

Tots' Treats (St. Leonard's): Thursday
7th September

Sparks (St. Luke's): Friday 8th
September

Ignite (St. Luke's): Friday 8th
September

Children, Youth and Family Leaders Meeting

We will be having a children, youth and family team meeting and thank you BBQ on Saturday 26th August from 1.00pm to 4.00pm. Come along and share your thoughts about the work we do and then relax with a burger (or two) and some ice cold drinks. Please let Stefan know if you are able to attend or complete the form: <https://tinyurl.com/cyfwbqq>

Holiday Club Quiz Night

Our Holiday Club Quiz Night in St. Luke's Church on Saturday 23rd September will be at 6.00pm, we will aim to finish before 10.00pm. Teams of 6 per table, light snacks available, but feel free to bring your own drinks and snacks. We are also looking for donations for the quiz night raffle, please let Stefan know if you have anything. To book please follow the link: <https://tinyurl.com/holclubquiz23> or contact Stefan.

The Strength of Seed

At this time of year, we enjoy the fruits of our gardens, fields and hedgerows: vegetables ripen, crops are harvested, and berries begin to show bright among the leaves. Much of this growth started with a few seeds in spring: the miracle of life coming from small dead-looking things. There is a league table of long-lived seeds. The winners so far are from the narrow-leaved campion, buried by squirrels in the Siberian permafrost over 30,000 years ago. When those seeds finally germinated, they became healthy plants that flowered and produced seeds of their own.

The Bible contains many links between seeds and spiritual growth, and the parable of the sower is the most famous (in Matthew 13). A person may hear or experience something of God which has the potential to germinate into a life of following Him, resulting in the fruit of others coming to know God too. But things can happen that snatch that seed away, killing it before it has finished germinating, or choking its growth.

What about the knowledge of God that gets trampled, churned too deep in the mire of life to receive the warmth and light it needs to develop into faith? Buried seeds don't always die, but they can lie dormant, remaining alive but inactive until the earth is turned over. The possibility of that moment of

connecting with something divine, scrap of knowledge, or snatch of conversation resulting in a changed life may seem infinitesimally small, but it's not zero. The seed may be incredibly tough, just waiting for a chance to grow.

The Gospel narrative plays on the fact that it took a long time for the disciples to understand the full implications of Jesus' teaching: a germination process that took many of them three or more years. They could have been discouraged, but Jesus was not. I don't think it's too much of stretch to draw out of the parable of the sower to include the observation that it can take a long time, sometimes decades, for people to work their way through the various barriers, sticking points, and phases of forgetfulness that may keep them from following through on their spiritual experience. When we finally receive – or are open to – the encouragement, challenge, or experience that helps our faith in Christ grow, we can experience the rich fruit of a transformed life.

Dr Ruth M Bancewicz, who is Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge.

Spiritual Disciplines: Rest

'Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.' (Matthew 11:28).

Today, the spiritual discipline of rest is a challenging one. We are pressured to cram more and more activities into fewer hours. This has been described as 'hurry sickness' and is an enemy of our spiritual life. August is a month for resting, and so is a good time to look at this discipline.

God instituted the discipline of rest in the creation of the world. He created everything in six days and rested on the seventh (Gen 2:3). He instituted the Sabbath, a weekly day of rest (Lev 23:3). However, it is helpful to draw a distinction between busyness and being hurried. Busyness is an outward condition, while hurry is about our inner state, resulting from too many competing priorities. Jesus was often busy but never hurried! What questions should we be asking about getting more rest?

Balancing Rest and Work:

What is a helpful rhythm of work and rest in our lives? How can we take seriously the Sabbath principle of having one day a week to rest and not work? How might we use our time differently eg taking a long walk or having an unhurried conversation with a friend?

Using Our Leisure Time Creatively:

When we actually take a break we often end up simply watching TV, surfing the net, shopping unnecessarily or eating when we are not hungry! Can we choose leisure activities that really refresh us? It's not a case of more leisure time, but using the time we have more creatively.

'The solution to an over busy life is not more time. It's to slow down and simplify our lives around what really matters.' (The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry: John Mark Comer).



www.seafordparish.org.uk/life-events/



James Hollingsworth reflects on The Church of Tomorrow by John McGinley

If you read one book this summer then it should be this one.

McGinley opens with this prayer of Thomas Merton: “My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me ... Therefore will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow ...”

And he closes the book with a prayer from Iona: Holy Spirit, wild goose of the Almighty, disturb me where I have settled and release me to fly with you. Set me on fire with love for you and give me courage to obey your voice. In the dark places, let me carry your light. With the broken, fill me with compassion and minister your healing. Send me to the lost, that they may find life in you. in humility I offer myself afresh to you so that, with others, you may form and forge us to be a people for yourself, living for your glory. Amen.

His book is a simple call to Just Do it. So: be a people who remember daily that

Jesus is Lord. Lord over all our fears and worries. The Lord who frees us from all our sins and addictions. The Lord who calls us. Notice our dependence on the Holy Spirit and so pray and pray. Pray when someone springs to mind, pray when you’re on the loo, pray when you standing in a check-out queue. Don’t get huffy and puffy because the traffic is slow, take a moment to pray, for God’s love is in you and you are in Christ and Christ is in the heavenly realms interceding for you, so pray and pray a bit more. This is the God who can do immeasurably more than all we can ask or imagine!

What would happen if your prayers were answered? What differences would there be? Pray with your heart, pray big bold prayers, prayers that make God say: “What did you just pray?!” Pray prayers that make God sweat!

Pray for a variety of congregations, and support groups (my daughter's church calls Home Groups Life Groups). This way different people can gather and support each other, practically, prayerfully as we together grow as disciples.

McGinley has four words that he would love to cure us of:

1. Church. McGinley notes that the Church of the Global South is growing rapidly (so perhaps there are lessons to learn from them) and that whenever the Church goes stale, God finds a way of getting on with it (see the Monastic movement through the 'dark ages' and the Pentecostal revival at the turn of the 19th Century). He laments the way the word 'church' is synonymous with the building not with the community. This is really an Anglican problem as Baptists and others are happy to speak of Chapel and Congregation (or other variations). I was once asked 'How old is your church' and when I replied about "sixty years." I replied to the puzzled inquirer that I suppose when you factor in the children that the average age of the congregation must be about sixty. It wasn't what he meant. I knew that.
2. Christendom. This really started to die with the Reformation, but certainly by the French Revolution it had gone. We see glimpses of it on Remembrance Day and at a Coronation but really the prestige and whatever privileges you might have thought came with Christendom are long gone. This is liberating as we let go of being worried about status and instead

focus on being a non-anxious presence, happy to be on the margins of society and loving our neighbours as ourselves.

3. Cessationism. You probably use this word even less than the one above. It's the old idea that when the Holy Spirit came and did its Pentecost thing with signs and wonders to launch the Church that that was it, a one-off injection and now good luck to you, so there's no more need for more miracles and things. However since the rise of the Charismatic aspect of the Church, the renewal of the Holy Spirit in the Church, it has been harder to be an actual cessationist. Nonetheless it is still quite easy to be a functional cessationist: one who prays but doesn't really expect anything to happen. McGinley points to Jackie Pullinger who prayed in tongues for 15 minutes every day before she started to see miracles. Perhaps we could try something like that.
4. Clericalism or Father knows best or best not to do anything while James is on Sabbatical. Rubbish. McGinley even has a quote from the Pope saying the same thing. I don't think we suffer from this one too badly these days. For example we don't suffer from the 'I didn't get a visit from a cleric, so it doesn't count even if another member of God's family brought me Communion'.

How we perceive ourselves can significantly affect how we understand our calling, the love of Jesus in us, the power of the Holy Spirit drawing us. So, God at work inside of us, and us together as a community are then well placed to just get on and do it.

Book Review

McGinley lists the 5 marks of mission. I think we do some of them quite well. I hope that as you read the list you will be drawn to two or three and put your prayers and power into them. (page 56, 57)

1. Proclaim the Good News;
2. Teach, baptise, nurture the faith
3. Respond to needs in loving service
4. Transforming unjust society;
5. Caring for all God's creation.

He closes his chapter on prayer with the prayer of St Patrick. Aware that as

we as a Church family become more aware of God's empowering and God's calling, that we will need to daily connect to God, to put on the armour of God. The third stanza of the prayer (p144) starts like this: *I arise today, through God's strength to pilot me, God's might to uphold me, God's wisdom to guide me, God's eye to look before me, God's ear to hear me, God's word to speak for me, God's hand to guard me, God's shield to protect me.*

I think perhaps we should pray this prayer daily.



Lewes, Seaford and District Branch



Please contact: Jean: 01323 892930

**KITTENS TO ELDERLY CATS
ALL NEED LOVING HOMES!**



Neutering

We can also help towards the cost of neutering your cats and kittens.

Please phone 01273 813111 (Option 3)
and leave a message including your phone number
so that we may contact you.



DO YOU HAVE ROOM FOR A FURRY FRIEND?

-PHONE FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION IF YOU CAN HELP

The sun

The sun comes up each day... I rise with it,
Each morning brings a moment of hope to where I sit,
I call out in prayer and thank God for this day,
I cradle the moment, minutes and the hours as they tick away,

The dawn warms my waiting heart,
God's caress brings blessings at the start,
Another day to reach out to his creation here,
Still as yet the who, when is not yet clear.

The Chair I Sit on in Church

The chair I sit on in church is often the same,
But I leave different from when I came,
I feel the hardness of its back and solid seat,
Its daily presence there reassuring to greet,

Its support is like the moving of the Lord,
Offering without expecting nothing as reward,
Something we all need in own way,
Whenever we feel need to sit and pray.

Grace in a Beach

Here by the beach, walking to and fro,
I see faces, thoughts I don't even know,
How many have happy lives, how many sad?
I pray for comfort on such days, however bad.

As morning ages and the sea cleanses the shore,
I call to God and he touches my body tense and sore,
I feel a sense of calm ,a heavenly release,
One of lifting, a renewing Grace and tearful peace.



Our parish- helping to save lives!

David Farey

The Beachy Head Chaplaincy Team is one of the designated charities that our parish supports. It is particularly relevant to us being so close, as well as having our own coastal walk up by the golf course and towards Cuckmere Haven.

We are blessed by having such an attractive coastline providing a glorious venue for walkers, sightseers and visitors. But sadly, these beauty spots also attract those who come to the area to end their lives.

The good news is that the team based at Beachy Head are willing and able to draw alongside the people who make their way to this beauty spot and help them to have hope and see that things can be better.

The Beachy Head Chaplaincy Team is a crisis intervention, search and rescue service that seeks to prevent loss of life from suicide at Beachy Head. They patrol a 4.5 mile search area on foot and by car, identifying people who are displaying possible suicidal traits and engaging with them at the earliest opportunity. Using skills in crisis intervention they offer supportive listening to start a dialogue and encourage a more hopeful solution than a premature termination of their lives. And the trained chaplains are available every day of the year. That's commitment!

All the chaplains belong to churches so faith is an important aspect to the work, although the training ensures that people are approached with sensitivity. There is no hidden agenda to deliberately promote faith, but only to help those in need to have hope in the future.

People's lives have been turned around. From believing that all hope is gone, and nothing can change their situations the Team have had many responses from the people they have been able to help. Here are just a few.

"Thank you for the amazing work that you do. You have recently saved my nephews life and my family and I will be eternally grateful. God bless you all."

“The months surrounding our meeting are hazy. You found me writing a note in my car. I was pregnant at the time and I didn’t want to go on.”

“My son is turning one in a few months and I can’t not think of that night at Beachy Head when your two Chaplains helped me. He wouldn’t be here if it wasn’t for you and I just wanted to say thank you.”

Taking one’s own life doesn’t just affect the person involved. On average around 135 people are profoundly affected by one person’s death. There is also the sadness of those who survive but are severely damaged. It is far from an easy option.

Sadly around 1% of all suicides in the UK occur at Beachy Head. People travel here from far and wide, as well as nearby. There are around 3 incident/searches on average per day in 2023 and work alongside their colleagues in Sussex Police and the nurses of the Mental Health Triage Team. These other agencies are able to go on and provide support for many of those the Team connects with in order to help them find a way from darkness to light.

But each of us can play a part in supporting those who feel they have no options left. It’s as simple as just saying hello to someone. As we walk along we encounter all kinds of people, whether it’s on the streets, on the beach or along one of the coastal paths. A simple greeting can make a world of difference. Sadly there are many isolated and lonely people in the world and in that isolation dark thoughts can fester. To make contact with another person who smiles and gives them a simple “hello” can be the difference

which lifts their spirits and provides a small glint in the darkness.

The work of the chaplains is really a fully grown version of that. One of the chaplains, Mark, says that he loves the fact that the work they do makes such a difference to so many, “being there for someone who has hit rock bottom and life has lost its hope is a privilege, to listen to somebody’s story is very humbling and also if we get the chance to see that person at another point later in their life and they say ‘I was here a year ago and I have turned my life around and I’m in a better place’ - then what greater reward is there than that!”

As someone has said, “Suicide doesn’t end the chances of life getting worse, it eliminates the possibility of it ever getting better”.

We are recruiting in July and August with the training commencing in Sept 2023. If you would like to find out more about volunteering at BHCT full information is on our website – www.bhct.org.uk or you can contact Karen on 07792 788606 or email Karen. Elkington@bhct.org.uk



Children's Corner

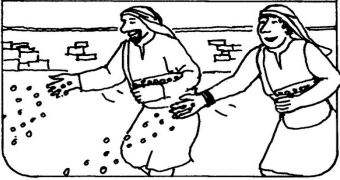
Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

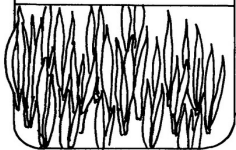
It can be read in the Bible in
Matthew chapter 13: 24-30, 36-43

Jesus told this story to help explain
what his Kingdom, the Kingdom of
Heaven, is like...

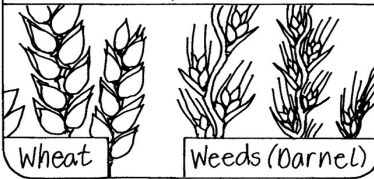
A farmer's workers sowed
good wheat seed in his field.



When the seeds
sprouted they
looked the same



When the plants grew bigger
the workers spotted the weeds



They asked the farmer



An enemy did this



No, you might pull up
some wheat with them.
Wait until harvest time



You will be able to sort them
out, and put the wheat in the
barn ... and burn the weeds



People asked



The field is the world
and the good seeds are
the good people



The angels will bring
the good people to me
in heaven.



g	f	n	p	w	d	f	i	e	l	d	o
j	e	v	i	l	o	d	a	r	n	e	l
b	b	v	r	g	a	r	c	r	p	y	p
u	h	o	p	x	h	n	k	s	m	p	b
j	w	a	s	c	a	t	t	e	r	e	d
k	s	l	p	j	r	g	n	s	r	o	r
p	o	p	r	p	v	e	w	o	w	p	s
d	r	u	o	w	e	v	s	e	h	l	e
j	t	l	u	t	s	n	p	s	e	e	e
w	c	l	t	o	t	e	h	g	a	d	d
d	o	h	e	a	v	e	n	j	t	m	s
g	o	o	d	g	l	a	d	n	v	a	e

worker

heaven

evil

pull

spotted

weeds

world

angels

good

happen

sort

wheat

same

field

seeds

harvest

scattered

farmer

enemy

plants

people

darnel

night

sprouted

If Music be the Food of Love

Keith Carlisle

Shakespeare then wrote on 'Give me excess of it, that surfeiting, the appetite might sicken and so die!', However, listening to the choir gently singing during Communion recently, Frederick Faber's words, '*There's a wideness in God's mercy that is wider than the sea...*' to Michal Bevan's ethereal tune 'Corvedale', reminds us that singing of God's love in that way will always continue its reality for us all. The eternal hope in Faber's words in one verse is so very powerful.

***For the Love of God is broader
Than the measure of the mind;
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.***

The words of the hymn are based on the Job 11:7-9. We shall be singing the hymn again in the near future. God's constant love ever reaching out to us.

Contrast God's reaching out to us, expressed in Faber's hymn, with words in a hymn by Charles Wesley. We shall be singing this hymn in August. In 2010, The Archbishop of Canterbury, writing in the Church Times, described the hymn as being 'intensely biblical'.

***'And can it be that I should gain
An interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
...Amazing love!...***

In this, opening verse, Wesley asks in astonishment 'Died He for me, who

caused His pain'? It was his personal reaction, response and acceptance of God's love. The hymn reveals the incredible reality of assurance of forgiveness and the power that the Holy Spirit brings to us as we come to Christ. Charles Wesley's brother, John, also an Anglican priest, had a similar experience in 1738. He records in his diary, 'My heart was strangely warmed within me. An assurance was given to me that my sins were forgiven- even mine - and saved me from the law of sin and death'



In the hymn, Charles Wesley writes that the mystery of how God should show his love through Christ's suffering on the cross cannot be understood by the 'First born seraph'!

***In vain the firstborn seraph tries
To sound the depths of love divine***

So, what is a 'seraph'? The dictionary defines one as 'a celestial being (Isaiah 6); an angel of the highest of the nine orders'. One of the most senior beings around the throne of God was not to know the full revelation of God's grace until that love was shown in the suffering Christ. The full revelation is confirmed in lines in the hymn.

***'Tis mercy all, let earth adore,
Let angel minds enquire no more!'***

Then, the full experience of the liberated soul, forgiven and reconciled with God.

***Long my imprisoned spirit lay,
Fast bound in sin and nature's night.
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray,
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light.
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth and followed Thee.***

This verse in the hymn reflects Paul and Silas's experience when imprisoned in Philippi. (Acts 16: 23b-34) but the whole chapter adds to the story). Peter also experienced 'chains falling off' (Acts 12) The comparison with the assurance found by the Wesleys is clear. This is a verse where the accompanying music swells to reflect the enormity of these words. The 'quick'ning ray' may refer to Alexander Pope's 1717 poem *Eloisa to Abelard*:

***'Thy eyes diffus'd a reconciling ray and
gleams of glory brighten'd all the day'***

The last verse of the hymn reiterates Paul's affirmation of justification in Romans 8.

***No condemnation now I dread
Jesus, and all in Him are mine!
Alive in Him, my living head,
And clothed in righteous divine.
Bold, I approach the eternal throne
And claim the crown,
Through Christ, my own!***

The exuberant outburst of total confidence in Christ!

The last couplet is often sung twice at the end of the hymn. An exciting hymn, with each verse reflecting our Christian beliefs. Sing it with enthusiasm!

One last thought, the inclusiveness and eternal nature of the wideness of God's mercy and love written about in the Eighteenth Century is just as relevant today. Stuart Townend, together with his group, sang his song 'Vagabonds' by the ticket barriers on Brighton Station a year or so ago and featured in 'Songs of Praise'.

***Come to the feast,
There is room at the table,
Come, let us meet in this place
With the King of all kindness
Who welcomes us in
With the wonder of love
And the power of grace***

Marvellous words, the eternal invitation remains!

A late thought

After writing this article I went away for a week or so. Whilst away, a preacher in an open-air service on the quay side of the harbour at Mouzuhl (Mousehole!), a village in Cornwall. was quoting this hymn. Then, the Mousehole Male Voice choir sang an arrangement of the hymn, boldly singing out 'Amazing Grace. Then, singing those words more and more quietly, until the rippling of waves coming into the harbour increasingly drowned out the words. Rippling waves as they had been for hundreds of years, rippling waves which will still do so for the next hundreds of years. A picture of the eternal love of God's 'Amazing Grace'.

Are you growing in your faith?

David Farey

A short time ago Derreck preached a sermon at St Luke's which made an important point relevant to our Home Groups here in the parish. Based on the passage in Matthew about being yoked to Jesus and taking His burden upon ourselves, for His burden is light. We all need to be in step with Jesus and stick with Him if we are to learn and grow in faith. Anyone who thinks they know all there is to know about God in their lives is deluding themselves.

But Derreck also went on to make a further point. Not only are we to take on the yoke of Jesus, but we are also to be yoked to one another. We are called to be in fellowship in the Church. A Christian on their own is like an animal that drifts away from the herd and becomes an easy prey for predators. The Devil is like a roaring lion prowling around waiting for someone to devour! So we should be looking out for one another and supporting and encouraging one another.

A church service on a Sunday can only partially fulfil that need. A far better way is when Christians meet in small groups regularly and study God's word and pray together. In that way we can keep on learning and growing in faith, get to know one another better and able to draw alongside and support those in need. But we also celebrate together when there is cause. We are linked to each other in a special way. When one is troubled, we are all

troubled, but when one rejoices, we can all rejoice!

September often has a sense of a 'new term' in church, with activities striking up again after a Summer recess. Now is an excellent time for each of us to reflect on how we are learning and growing in our faith. Remember, we are all meant to be maturing in our faith, and should do so until we die! We are the ones who should be equipped in order to pass on our faith to those who follow and to be able to answer the many attempts in our world to deny God's truth. How equipped do you feel? A friendly supportive home group can help. We are all learning!

Help can be given to anyone who wants to form a group and we have groups which do have some spaces. All you need to do is get together with a few friends and decide when and where to meet. Do have a word with us, or Derreck or James and we can see how we can help.

David and Pat Farey
homegroups@seafordparish.org.uk



This prayer diary offers a focus for personal and corporate prayer

I will lift my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth.
(Psalm 121: 1&2)



Pray for Mission Partners during August

LINK TO HOPE IN EASTERN EUROPE: Please pray for two of the projects supported by Link to Hope:

- Emmaus Club Dancu, Moldova that the children and parents continue to benefit from the additional help for students struggling in school.
- Work Skills Gherla Romania - Set up by a Pastor to help men and women to find jobs. Pray for the Pastor, the men and women looking for work and the employers and their workforce, as the skills needed, are utilised.
- Pray for everyone concerned in this ongoing work.

LAMA MINISTRIES: Please pray for:

- Praise report. Last month at the detention centre where Michael, Simon and Leah minister one of the boys asked for prayer for healing as the Dr had diagnosed glaucoma in both eyes. He expected to have an operation soon. We prayed for him and continued to pray each Tuesday. Yesterday Michael asked if anyone had received any answer to prayer and this boy gave him the thumbs up sign. After the chapel service he told us that he had a follow up check and the Dr said his eyes were normal. He is healed!
- For Michael in his Chaplaincy course - lots of work, essays, reading to do. He is doing well but behind with reading and journaling. Intensive course for one year ends in January.
- For Michael's boys, Rain and Riley, possibly changing schools next month to a Christian school where tuition is not so expensive.
- For the adoption process for baby - now 8 months old. For guidance to the right parents and that things would move forward. Pray for Ana and Simon who are taking care of baby.
- For Lesley, going for a check-up in Manila for achalasia – maybe requiring another operation. Having difficulty eating. Specialists are few, but there is one in Dasmarias, outside Manila.

SUNDAY - The Church Worldwide

- A renewed desire for the Word of God to change lives and make us to be more like Christ.
- Pray for the renewal of the church in vision, service and the power of the Holy Spirit, revealed through local churches, in every land.
- For the persecuted church. Christians living in fear of their lives, oppressed by governments or other religions, for believing in Jesus.
- For all Christian leaders that they would lead with integrity endowed with wisdom as they seek to grow their congregations in love, and witness to the world around.
- That the Church will lead the way in demonstrating a safe environment for all especially the young, the elderly and the vulnerable.
- As the church worships today, that we might all bring the best we can, listen for His voice, and know His presence.

MONDAY – The UK

- Give thanks for 75 years of the NHS. Pray for the current difficulties especially increasing waiting lists and strike action. Pray for all who work in the NHS.
- Cost of living crisis. For those affected by the rise in mortgage rates and the new tenancy laws leading to hardship and homelessness. Pray for government decisions that they are made with wisdom and compassion.
- Pray for the King and Queen as they continue to tour the UK, seeking to support national life in so many ways through events, charities and honouring those who serve the country and local communities.
- For our armed forces and their role in Ukraine / Russia war, in NATO and on the world stage, politically and socially.
- For the soon to be published guidance for parents and teachers regarding personal and social education in schools and to address the cultural changes affecting them. This consultation is from the education secretary and equalities minister with parent/teacher involvement. Pray that this guidance will be clear and help dispel confusion and concerns.

TUESDAY - Parish

- Pray for James returning from his Sabbatical that he will quickly catch up with what has been happening and that he will be rested, energised and re-envisioned to lead the parish forward.
- For Derreck and Corrinne and their ministries within the parish.
- For Stefan and Alice and the safe delivery of baby Bracher and strength, energy and joy as they begin their family life together.
- For the Prayer Ministry Day on September 30th; for Rev. Rich Thomas and team as they lead the day.
- For the Churchwardens and PCC as they meet to address issues regarding the parish

WEDNESDAY – Children and Young people

- Pray for the children, their families and the young people as they begin another academic year and the groups start again.
- Pray for new members attending Sparks & Ignite that they will settle in quickly and have fun.
- Pray for Stefan, Alice and the team as they faithfully minister to the children and families, week by week. Pray for more helpers to get involved.
- For those going to “Glow” (St. Luke’s) and Messy Church (St. Leonard’s) that those attending will learn more about Jesus and His love for them.
- For the group who meet week by week to watch and discuss “The Chosen”.
- For the fundraiser on 23rd September that it will be a fun event to raise funds for holiday club.
- For those planning, preparing for the half-term holiday club – “Watt-a-Lott Castle” Holiday Club. Pray for the children attending.

THURSDAY – For those living in

August 3rd Alfriston Road, Alfriston Park, Seafeld Close, Old Nursery Close
Kammond Ave

August 10th Cradle Hill Road, Sutton Mews, Sheep Pen Lane, Sutton Road,
Meadow Way

August 17th Harrison Road, Sandore Road, Sandore Close, Bromley Road

August 24th Eton Close, Harrow Close, Roedean Close, Benenden Close,
Rugby Close

August 31st: Dulwich Close, Millfield Close, Blue Haze Avenue, Richington
Way,

September 7th Vale Close, Vale Road, Etherton Way, West Dean Rise, East Dean
Rise,

September 14th Valley Drive, Quarry Lane, Lexden Road, Lexden Court, Barn Rise,

September 21st Raymond Close, The Peverells, Lexden Drive, Pitt Drive, Barn
Close, Coxwell Close,

September 28th Bodiam Close, Cinque Ports Way, Deal Avenue, Sandgate Close,
Battle Close, Dymchurch Close.

FRIDAY – Seaford

- For Christian churches in Seaford, that our witness might impact upon our communities and that we might be one.
- For staff and patients in care and nursing homes. For the teams visiting to take services that the message of Jesus’ love might be shared and received.
- For the healthcare staff seeking to prioritise and meet the health needs of the town. Pray for safety and good personal health.
- For the members of the emergency services - police, ambulance, Fire and Rescue, coastguards and lifeboat volunteers.
- For visitors to the town that they will enjoy good hospitality and enjoy the countryside and facilities safely.

SATURDAY – World

- Pray for an end to the war between Russia and Ukraine. For all trying to come to terms with the consequences of the conflict and rebuild shattered lives
- For a united international effort to solve the problem of people trafficking and those fleeing their homelands as refugees.
- For those across the world suffering from extremes of temperatures, flooding or drought.
- That world leaders and governments will find workable remedies to cope with climate change and the ensuing environmental issues. That richer nations will offer help to the poorer nations so that there will be better use of the earth and its finite resources.
- For women protesting in Iran against wearing of traditional hijab and the government's reintroduction of the morality police. For all living under oppressive regimes who fight for equality.

Pray for Missions Partners during September

SCHOOLS

Please pray for:

- All staff and children at the beginning of the new academic year as they return to new routines.
- Those with special needs who find these times of transition difficult.
- For senior management teams and governing bodies to have wisdom and innovative ideas with regard to the provision of resources on limited budgets.
- For the former pupils (and their families) of St. John's School that closed in July that they will find appropriate school placements for their complex needs. For the former staff that they will find new employment.
- That there will be opportunities for God's word to reach every pupil in our schools.

A.S.A.P.

Have you ever considered the abbreviation A.S.A.P. (As Soon As Possible)? Generally, it brings even more hurry and stress into our lives. Yet there is another way to think of A.S.A.P, a way which might help us deal with those difficult times in our daily lives.

When there's work to do, and deadlines to meet, and your colleagues are rushing around, here's what you can do to help: A.S.A.P. – *Always Say a Prayer*. When your worries mount up and you don't know how you are ever going to cope with what is coming at you: A.S.A.P. – *Always Say a Prayer*.



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Shoebox Appeal

2023

Hazel Bramley

Shoebox Appeal 2023 is again underway at both our churches.

Shoebox leaflets are available in both St. Leonard's and St. Luke's. There is also a copy in this magazine. You are also welcome to ring or text me on the number below.

If you need ideas for fillers try offers in supermarkets, craft kits, sewing kits, screwdrivers, razors, small games, hair accessories to name a few. Also try Poundland, Lidl or Aldi.

If you do crafts yourself try making a simple shopping bag or toy. Please remember, though, that all toys need to have a CEUK safety label. Having said that though, toys which haven't are still accepted can be packed alongside the shoe boxes to fill in the gaps. Imagine a volunteer opening a large outer box and being faced with beautifully wrapped shoe boxes and some teddies with smiling faces looking up at them. Aaah.

Our many knitters have been knitting during the year. We have already delivered a large box of items to Link to Hope headquarters in Ferring. Thank you so much. It is much appreciated.

Knitting yarn is still always useful. Contact me and I will get it collected and shared with our many knitters. This will enable them to continue to produce blankets, hats, scarves, mitts and gloves.



Finally, those who have access to the internet check out the Link to Hope website - linktohope.co.uk - you will find details of the many projects which they support, videos of the areas in Eastern Europe where your boxes of smiles are taken and ideas of things to put in them.

Thank you so much for your continued support.

Hazel Bramley 07890 726957 or email bramleyd620@btinternet.com



Lunchtime Concerts in St. Leonard's Church

The Concerts remain free and self supporting by the donations given at the end of each concert by our generous audience, to whom we are deeply grateful.



Saturday 19th August at 1.00pm

**D'Arcy Trinkwon
(organ)**

One of the distinguished musicians of his generation, D'Arcy Trinkwon is acclaimed as a unique artist who demonstrates superlative artistry and prodigious talent at international festivals and celebrity concert series in concert halls, cathedrals

and churches around the world, including solo, concerto and broadcast appearances, master classes and coaching. Alongside his concert career he is Organist of Worth Abbey (OSB) and Organist to the University of Sussex.

Saturday 16th September at 1.00pm

Hammig String Quartet

The London based Hammig String Quartet was first formed in 1989. Over the years they have given concerts in many venues in England and Wales, and also in Germany. They are frequent performers at St. George's Beckenham, and were the inaugural Artists in Residence at St John's Catford for the 2017-18 season. They have recently



completed a performance cycle, over several years, of all Shostakovich's String Quartets. They also perform at weddings and other functions, and coach adult amateurs on chamber music courses and workshops.

Saturday 21st October: Julia Kemp (mezzo soprano) & Rosemary Kemp (piano)

Saturday 18th November: Charity concert for St. Cecilia's Day in aid of Christian Aid Clare Beesley (historical flute) & Peter Churchill (piano accordion).



A Decade of Donating - millions raised for millions in need

Many of you have been donating to Christian Aid for much longer than ten years, but this last decade has seen an increased intensity and diversity of disasters. New conflicts have exacerbated on-going ones, whilst Global Climate Change rages on. It is often Christian Aid's local partner organisations who are first on the scene of these disasters and over the last decade alone, millions of pounds were donated to support Christian Aid Disaster Appeals, alongside the DEC and our local partners working on the front line, giving emergency assistance to those in need.

Last year, at our local level, we sent £8,374.00 to Christian Aid from all our activities. This year, we sent £2,000.00 to the Emergency appeal from various activities and a further £5,418.96 was sent after all the events of Christian Aid Week. A huge thank you to all who continue to support Christian Aid Appeals year after year and here, in the last decade alone, is how your support made a difference:

Nicola Ferguson

2013

Typhoon Haiyan: One of the strongest tropical cyclones ever recorded made landfall in the Philippines. Waves measured eight metres and with winds up to 195mph killing 6,340 people and leaving over 4 million people displaced. Together with the Disaster Emergency Committee, we raised over £10 million.

Syrian Crisis: 6.6 million people in Syria had to flee and more than 5.6 million became refugees. Since this appeal launched in March 2013, we have raised over £6 million.

2014

Ebola Crisis: The largest ever outbreak of the deadly Ebola disease spread throughout Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia and beyond. 11,323 people died from the disease of which 3,956 were in Sierra Leone alone. Together with the DEC we raised £37 million.

Gaza crisis: Between July and August, Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory experienced escalated levels of violence. Four Israeli civilians were killed and 1,492 Palestinian civilians were killed, with more than 500,000 Palestinian civilians displaced; nearly a quarter of the population of the Gaza Strip. Together with the DEC we raised more than £17 million.

Iraq Crisis: 3 million people were internally displaced and despite the end of anti-IS military operations, security situations remain volatile. We raised more than £1.5 million.

Christian Aid

2015

South Sudan Crisis: South Sudan faced its worst food crisis with 30% of the population needing food and security. Years of conflict had disrupted everything: the harvests, the collapse of the economy sending food and fuel prices rocketing. We raised £750,000.

2016

Bangladesh Cyclone Roanu - Seven districts were devastated by strong winds and a storm surge of 2.7 metres. 1.3 millions people were directly affected, more than 100 schools were damaged with more than 200,000 people displaced. We raised more than £1.2 million.

Equador Earthquake: Measuring 7.8 in magnitude, more than 650 people died, over 16,000 were injured. 6,998 buildings were destroyed. We raised £109,00

Ethiopia Drought Appea: Worst drought in more than three decades causing crop failures. More than 10 million people needed food and water due to El Niño. More than 400,000 children suffered severe malnutrition. We raised £50,000.

Hurricane Matthew Haiti: Thousands lost their homes.

Malawi food crisis: Millions in need of food and water due to weather disruption and conflicts.

Zika virus: Confirmed in Brazil (2015)

and by August 2016, forty-five countries and territories in the Americas had confirmed cases, with 6,776 cases in newborns. We raised £30,000

2017

Rohingya Crisis: Helped many displaced by violence in Rakhine State with thousands of 'forgotten' children needing safety and support. Christian Aid child-friendly spaces set up in refugee camps allowing children to learn play and receive emotional support. Donations of support continue.

Sierra Leone mudslide Appeal: More than 1000 people killed. Donations received have helped more than 200 children who lost everything in the mudslide.

Nigeria Crisis Appeal: Terrorist attacks by Boko Haram displaced more than 2 million people. We were one of the few humanitarian organisations to provide support. Donations gave more than 400,000 people food assistance and support to produce their own food and nutritional support for 22,000 children under 5. Cash transfers were given to 21,000 people for essential needs.

2018

Kerala Floods Appeal: 500,000 houses damaged or destroyed with 474 deaths and many displaced due to flooding. Donations enabled us to respond quickly with shelter, water, sanitation and more. Indonesian Tsunami Appeal -

Giant tidal waves struck without warning on 22nd December killing hundreds of people injuring thousands and displacing tens of thousands. Donations helped Christian Aid partner, YEU to help more than 22,000 survivors.

2019

South Asia Emergency Appeal: Super cyclone Amphan battered thousands of homes and millions were in need of safe water, hygiene supplies, masks and sanitisers to prevent the spread of Coronavirus.

Cyclone Idai Appeal: Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe - more than 1000 people killed and more than 2.5 million more affected, especially in remote areas. Donations assisted our local partners to give support of emergency food, water, clothing and shelter with medical supplies.

Cyclone Fans Appeal: India and Bangladesh - wind gusts of more than 190kmh and one of the strongest storms to hit the region, hitting the poorest state of Odisha.

Donations have helped people in India and Bangladesh prepare for disasters over the last several years.

Cyclone Bulbul Appeal: Bangladesh - Affected more than 1.8 million people with more than 70,000 homes damaged.

Amazon Rainforest Petition: UK government calls for more ambition to tackle climate crisis and biodiversity loss.

2020

Lebanon Crisis Appeal: A sudden explosion tears through the port of Beirut. Shock waves rush through densely populated areas. 200 lives lost, more than 6,500 injured and 300,000 people left homeless. Beirut neighbourhoods were reduced to rubble, 85% of the country's grain and medical supplies were lost. We raised more than £944,000 since the appeal launched in 2020.

Hurricane Iota Emergency Appeal: Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala - came two weeks after Hurricane Eta. More than 230,000 people forced to flee to shelters.

2021

Haiti Earthquake Appeal: A 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck Haiti at Les Cayes, 75 miles from Port-au-Prince; the capital, followed two days later by Tropical Storm Grace, causing flash floods and mudslides. Thousands died, over 12,000 were injured and nearly 1,500 homes were destroyed. Hundreds were missing.

2022

East Africa Hunger Appeal: War in Ukraine has caused global food prices to rise and East Africa faced many crises. Ongoing donations have enabled Christian Aid to work through local partners who have assisted Kenya and Ethiopia repairing wells, giving cash support, distributing water purification kits, fodder and medicine to keep livestock alive and truck water to drought-affected communities.

Afghanistan Crisis Appeal: Through two partners we assisted around 17,000 people with food packages and

provided over 850 pregnant women, new mothers and malnourished infants with additional support.

2023

DEC Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal: An initial earthquake measuring 7.8hit Turkey near the border with northern Syria. Nine hours later a second earthquake with a magnitude of 7.5 struck. Aftershocks followed. Two weeks later, Turkey experienced two further earthquakes. More buildings collapsed and widespread panic ensued. ‘..Christian Aid has been working with local partners across Syria for decades and responding to the crisis since 2012. Our partners were the first responders in Syria since the earthquake struck and despite the challenges, have been working with locally led relief efforts in Northwest Syria..’ Christianaid.org.uk

Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal: Since February 2022 we have raised £23 million from supporters and institutional donors and have delivered emergency assistance to over 800,000 people affected by the war in over 20 regions across Ukraine and the border areas of Hungary and Romania.

“..Hindsight is a wonderful thing but foresight is better, especially when it comes to saving life..”

William Blake

Christian Aid Lunch

Friday 27th October

Cross Way Church

Tickets: £8 per ticket from

The View from the Window

Like a painting it is set before one,
But less brittle, ageless; these colours
Are renewed daily with variations
Of light and distance that no painter
Achieves or suggests. Then there is movement,
Change, as slowly the cloud bruises
Are healed by sunlight; or snow caps
A black mood; but gold at evening
To cheer the heart. All through history
The great brush has not rested,
Nor the paint dried; yet what eye,
Looking coolly, or, as we now,
Through the tears’ lenses, ever saw
This work and it was not finished?

Poetry Corner... *Selected by Jim Holmes*



Terry Howell

‘Helping people into Housing’

Open Garden – a diverting tale

It was June day when I walked from the car park at the top of the hill to Barrack Cottage about half a mile away. I was going to help with the HOMELINK event. I saw a couple about to follow the narrow main road and suggested another route, thinking that a better route was signposted. However, on seeing no signs, I decided to continue as a guide. We went through the peaceful Bishopstone churchyard, nestling in the Downs, and past the Saxon Church to the Parish Hall then followed a footpath across a field and eventually arrived opposite Barrack Cottage. It was only on returning that I realised that we should have taken a path parallel to the road halving the distance! I had misled people (not for the first time) but I hope the couple were compensated with better scenery. Meanwhile, at Barrack Cottage, we were welcomed at the gate with Jazz played while tea was served with delicious cakes and strawberries and cream. In the distance, a ukulele band was playing at the top of the four-acre garden. A good time was had by all, including a former Lord Lieutenant, an opera Diva and our MP, and we raised over £2000 for HOMELINK.

Annual Report 2022

May I again recommend our colourful Annual Report on our website. I am very willing to give a copy to anyone who cannot access this website.

Lewes District Council (LDC)

We are delighted that the improvement in referrals from LDC has continued and that we have had 43 referrals for loans to provide rent in advance this year compared to 18 for the whole of last year. One of our aims has always been to support the work of the LDC housing department without taking on its statutory duties and we are now doing precisely that. We have helped 28 tenancies so far this year which is similar to last year in spite of the lack of rented accommodation.

Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting at Cross Ways church welcomed Deputy Lord Lieutenant Violet Hancock as well as a number of local Councillors and Mayors. Our speaker was Andrew Winter, former CEO of Brighton Housing Trust. He emphasised the importance of local housing charities with their strong local connections including church support. He reminded us the lack of housing was an important factor in making life difficult for many people some of whom had work but no home. A sustained building programme for new accommodation targeted at those with low incomes was badly needed.

Grants

The demand for grants continues to be very high. We have been able to give grants of up to £500 for carpeting thanks to a £5k support from Enjoolata again. In addition we have given grants of £250 or more for white goods e.g. cookers, fridges and washing machines. Our volunteers, particularly Gill Short, do a great job in contacting applicants referred to us and finding cheap sources of second hand goods. We have made 85 grants this year more than a year ago.

Please pray for:

- Our clients offered loans and looking for housing
- The housing department of LDC
- Our staff Garry and Shaun, client managers; Wendy, administrator; Fran, repayments officer; and Gabrielle, finance officer.

www.lewesdistricthomelink.org.uk



HOMELINK is a registered charity led by a Board of Trustees (including one from our Parish) and run by a Management Committee, all of whom are volunteers. Other volunteers help in a wide range of roles.

HOMELINK normally employ five part-time staff: two Client Managers; a Repayments Officer; a Finance Manager; and an Administration and Development Officer;

HOMELINK's office is rented from Age Concern in the House of Friendship in Lewes.

A square sign with a white border and a dark, textured background. The text 'Come In' is written in a white, cursive script at the top. Below it, 'WE'RE' is written in a white, sans-serif font. At the bottom, 'OPEN' is written in a large, white, bold, sans-serif font.

St. Leonard's Open Church Cafe

**Free refreshments
& conversation**

**Saturdays
August 26th and
September 23rd**

10.00am to 12.30pm



Life And More Abundant Ministries

LAMA

Lesley Gomez



One of the phrases LAMA Ministries has stood by in the years ministering to our street children is: "For as long as it takes." We keep in touch, visit and support in practical ways.

This photograph was taken in 2010...



L-R: Mark, Joecris, Jack, me, Ryan, Jerome, Rafael (back), Gener, Johndel (back), Richbert, Jay-R, Fidel and Raul (front).

Here is an update on some of the LAMA 'children' in July 2023!

Richbert is working in a call centre, he recently got engaged. We saw him last Sunday in church, he visits often.

Joecris is living in Australia working as a Caregiver.

Gener is in Malaysia driving heavy equipment.

Jay-R is a security guard. Herman got married.

Jonar is also married with two children, he often visits us.

Jimo stayed with us at LAMA House for a few nights, following a motorbike accident. His girlfriend had just broken

off their relationship. He had a bad day! He is fine now and back working at a car wash. He is also studying to finish his high school education. Diether works as a chef in Baguio.

Wowie is doing OK living with his Aunt. Tony stays here sometimes and other times in San Fernando with Prima, whose baby we fostered years ago. Tony is same age as her son.

Vamos continues to work as a driver. His son has just graduated from high school.

Joshua, Rustom and Vincent are working as car park attendants. Kevin is still living in Tondo, but sadly this is not a good situation. Please continue to hold Kevin in your prayers.



Jayson recently reunited with his sister after many years apart from each other. Jayson's daughter is a student nurse. LAMA helps pay her tuition fees.



Nicole, one of our girls, aged 16 continues to teach Sunday school and also takes part in the open-air children's mission with the Baptist church. She and her younger sister, Nikka, recently had chicken pox. Nicole received honours in her school end of year awards. Jitel lives near Manila, she is in High School. Her brother, Ivan works at 'Jollibee' (fast food restaurant) here in San Fernando.



News from the Youth Detention Centre. A boy was healed from glaucoma. This has been verified by the doctor. Michael prayed with him last month. Last week, Michael asked if anyone had received answers to prayer and this boy gave a

thumbs up. After the chapel service, he told us that he had a check-up and the Dr said his eyes are normal, he confirmed that no operation is needed. Several of the boys from the Detention Centre are now home and we plan to them visit soon. Jesus/Jose is getting married soon.



Another Jose is in police training. Baby M: Is 8 months. Has 2 teeth. Is crawling. A Happy baby! However, not a lot is happening regarding the adoption process.



Lesley recently travelled to Manila for a medical consultation, which will lead to further investigative tests regarding Achalasia. The journey takes seven hours.

Many thanks for your prayers and support

Lesley and Peter Gomez, Michael and Jeli, Ana and Simon.

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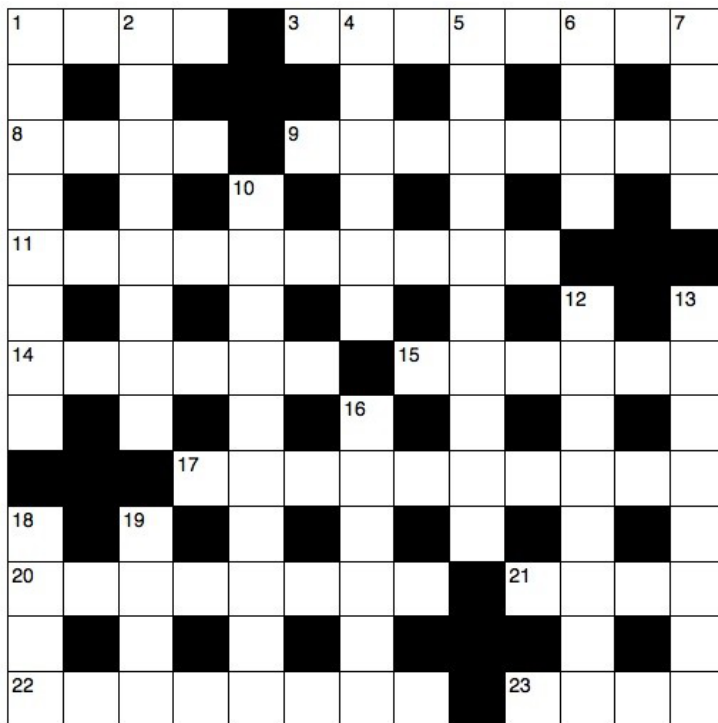


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Crossword



Across

- 1 & 3 Two of the disciples who witnessed the transfiguration of Jesus (Luke 9:28) (4,3,5)
 3 See 1 Across
 8 'Let us draw — to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith' (Hebrews 10:22) (4)
 9 O Simon is (anag.) (8)
 11 Form of government under the direct rule of God or his agents (10)
 14 How Jesus found his disciples when he returned to them after praying in Gethsemane (Luke 22:45) (6)
 15 In The Pilgrim's Progress, the name of the meadow into which Christian strayed, which led to Doubting Castle (2-4)
 17 Glad sin rat (anag.) (10)
 20 Spinal column (Leviticus 3:9) (8)
 21 Valley of the Balsam Tree with a reputation of being a waterless place (Psalm 84:6) (4)
 22 'The oracle of Balaam son of Beor, the oracle of one — — sees clearly' (Numbers 24:3) (5,3)
 23 Adam and Eve's third son (Genesis 4:25) (4)

Readings for August-September

Lectionary

6th August:

9th Sunday after Trinity

Genesis 32: 22–31

Matthew 14: 13–21

13th August:

10th Sunday after Trinity

Genesis 37.1–4,1,2–28

Matthew 14.22–33

20th August:

11th Sunday after Trinity

Genesis 45.1–15-

Matthew 15.21–28

27th August:

12th Sunday after Trinity

Exodus 1.8 – 2.10

Gospel: Matthew 16.13–20

3rd September:

13th Sunday after Trinity

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

Matthew 16:21-28

10th September:

14th Sunday after Trinity

Numbers 22:21-41

Matthew 18: 21-35

17th September:

15th Sunday after Trinity

Ecclesiastes 12:1-8

Matthew 18: 21-35

24th September:

16th Sunday after Trinity

Proverbs 3: 1-15

Matthew 20: 1-16

Down

- 1 David's great friend (1 Samuel 20:17) (8)
- 2 'The Lord... will bring me safely to his — kingdom' (2 Timothy 4:18) (8)
- 4 'I, Daniel, mourned for three weeks. I ate no choice food; — — or wine touched my lips' (Daniel 10:3) (2,4)
- 5 Seeking to vindicate (Job 32:2) (10)
- 6 Female servant (Isaiah 24:2) (4)
- 7 'For Christ died for — once for all' (1 Peter 3:18) (4)
- 10 'Offering spiritual sacrifices — to God through Jesus Christ' (1 Peter 2:5) (10)
- 12 Jesus said that some people had renounced this 'because of the kingdom of heaven' (Matthew 19:12) (8)
- 13 One of the three men thrown into the furnace for refusing to worship Nebuchadnezzar's golden image (Daniel 3:20) (8)
- 16 'You have — of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry' (Luke 12:19) (6)
- 18 'There before me was a white horse! Its rider held — — , and he was given a crown' (Revelation 6:2) (1,3)
- 19 Equipment to Charity Hospitals Overseas (1,1,1,1)

August Calendar

Wednesday 2nd	11.00am	Matins	St. Leonard's
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Sunday 6th	9.30am	Holy Communion	Both churches
	11.00am	Beach Church	Near Martello Tower
Tuesday 8th	11.00am	Prayer Ministry & Communion	St. Luke's
Wednesday 9th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Sunday 13th	9.30am	Family Worship	St. Luke's
	11.00am	Beach Church	Near Martello Tower
	7.00pm	Prayer@7	St. Luke's
Wednesday 16th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Saturday 19th	1.00pm	Lunchtime Concert	St. Leonard's
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Sunday 20th	9.30am	Holy Communion	Both churches
	11.00am	Beach Church	Near Martello Tower
Tuesday 22nd	11.00am	Prayer Ministry & Communion	St. Luke's
Wednesday 23rd	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Saturday 26th	10.00am	Open Church Cafe	St. Leonard's
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Sunday 27th	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Family Worship	St. Luke's
	11.00am	Beach Church	Near Martello Tower
Wednesday 30th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's

Opera Gala Evening

The Intergenerational Opera Gala Evening planned for August has been postponed. Details of a new date will be circulated as soon as possible.

Crossword answers

ACROSS: 1, John. 3, And James. 8, Near. 9, Omission. 11, Theocratic. 14, Asleep. 15, By-path. 17, Stalingrad. 20, Backbone. 21, Baca. 22, Whose eye. 23, Seth.

DOWN: 1, Jonathan. 2, Heavenly. 4, No meat. 5, Justifying. 6, Maid. 7, Sins. 10, Acceptable. 12, Marriage. 13, Shadrach. 16, Plenty. 18, A bow. 19, ECHO.

September Calendar

Saturday 2nd	9.30am	Messy Church	St. Leonard's
Sunday 3rd	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	Both churches
Wednesday 6th	11.00am	Matins	St. Leonard's
	12.30pm	Parish Lunch	St. Luke's
Friday 8th	2.30pm	Mothers' Union	St. Luke's
Sunday 10th	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Family Worship	St. Luke's
	7.00pm	Prayer@7	St. Luke's
Tuesday 12th	11.00am	Prayer Ministry & Communion	St. Luke's
	Magazine copy date		
Wednesday 13th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Saturday 16th	1.00pm	Lunchtime Concert	St. Leonard's
Sunday 17th	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	Both churches
Monday 18th	7.30pm	Women's Group	St. Luke's
Wednesday 20th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Saturday 23rd	10.00am	Open Church Cafe	St. Leonard's
Sunday 24th	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Family Worship	St. Luke's
	7.00pm	St. Luke's@7	St. Luke's
Tuesday 26th	11.00am	Prayer Ministry & Communion	St. Luke's
Wednesday 27th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's

Regular Services & Group

Services in St. Leonard's Church

Sundays

- 8.00am Holy Communion: a quiet said service
 9.30am Holy Communion: a service with choir and hymns
 11.30am The Meeting Place: informal worship (1st and 3rd Sundays)
 Except August & September



Wednesdays

- 11.00am Matins: a quiet said service (1st Wednesday)
 11.00am Holy Communion: a said service (other Wednesdays)



Services in St. Luke's Church

Sundays

- 9.30am Holy Communion: a service with hymns (1st and 3rd Sundays)
 9.30am Family Worship: informal worship (2nd and 4th Sunday) with bacon rolls from 9.00am
 7.00pm Prayer@7: a short time of worship followed by prayer (2nd Sunday)
 7.00pm St. Luke's@7: Contemporary worship (4th Sunday) Except August

Tuesdays

- 11.00am Prayer Ministry and Communion (2nd and 4th Tuesdays) followed by refreshments

Sunday	Glow (children's group)	9.30am	St. Luke's	1 st and 3 rd Sundays
Monday	Women's Group	7.30pm	St. Luke's	3 rd Monday
Tuesday	Bell Ringers	7.30pm	St. Leonard's	Weekly
Wednesday	Tots	9.30am	St. Luke's	Weekly*
	Parish Lunch	12.30pm	St. Luke's	1 st Wednesday
Thursday	Tots	9.30am	St. Leonard's	Weekly*
	Choir	7.00pm	St. Leonard's	Weekly
Friday	Mother's Union	2.30pm	St. Luke's	2 nd Friday
	Sparks	5.45pm	St. Luke's	Weekly*
	Ignite	7.45pm	St. Luke's	Weekly*
Saturday	Messy Church	9.30am	St. Leonard's	1 st Saturday
	Open Church	10.00am	St. Leonard's	See calendar

*Term time

Parish Directory

Clergy

Revd. James Hollingsworth	01323 893508	vicar@seafordparish.org.uk
Revd. Derreck Lee-Philpot	01323 893391	dlp@seafordparish.org.uk

Children, Youth & Family Missioner

Stefan Bracher		cyfw@seafordparish.org.uk
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Parish Office- calls can be taken Monday to Friday 10.00am to 12.00 noon

Charlie Christie	07391 787130	admin@seafordparish.org.uk
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Churchwardens

Fred Bass	01323 893054	fred@seafordparish.org.uk
Liz Morgan-Jones	01323 890644	liz@seafordparish.org.uk

Deputy Wardens

Janet Kent (St. Leonard's)	01323 490050	janet.seaford@btinternet.com
Paul Waller (St. Leonard's)	01323 872088	
Joanne Lalla (St. Luke's)		joanne.lalla@btinternet.com

Parish Treasurer

Paul Waller	01323 872088	atreasurer@seafordparish.org.uk
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Pastoral Care Co-ordinator

Prayer Pastor

Sue Griffiths		prayerpastor@seafordparish.org.uk
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Safeguarding Officer

Ruth Saunders		safeguarding@seafordparish.org.uk
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Home Groups

David Farey		homegroups@seafordparish.org.uk
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Hall Bookings	07425 936674	bookings@seafordparish.org.uk
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Magazine

Distribution	01323 892883	David and Hazel Bramley
Editor: Malcolm Anderson	01323 891252	magazine@seafordparish.org.uk

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