

church family matters

February 2018

BE IMITATORS OF GOD
AS DEARLY LOVED CHILDREN
AND LIVE A LIFE OF LOVE
EPHESIANS 5: 1-2

 Holy Trinity
Combe Down

 St Andrew's
Community Church

**PRAY
IN THE
SPIRIT
AT ALL
TIMES**
EPHESIANS 6: 18

PRAYER - It doesn't matter how we do it, but let's make sure we do it! In small groups, alone, in prayer triplets, in a bigger meeting, pastoral team meetings, staff prayers, prayer ministry - there are many ways to pray at HT and StACC. You would be very welcome to join any of the prayer gatherings below:

Prayer during Lent - for those who need healing, the new vicar and prayer for the city

Tuesday-Saturday, 9-10 am. Each week during Lent from Tue 13 Feb to Sat 31 March.

For St Andrew's

Monday evening, 6-6.45 pm
Contact Steve Rogers

For the Vacancy & new Vicar

2nd Sunday/mth, 7-8 pm, HT
Contact Christine Absolon, David Purdon

7 am-ers (broadly mission)

Thursday morning, 7 am, HT
Contact Jean Maguire

Lucy Groups

Prayer for the sick
Contact Janet Andrews

For the Persecuted Church

4th Mon/mth. 123 Church Rd
Contact Rachel Jackson

For the parish and the UK

Monday evening, 7.30-8.30 pm
Contact Christine Absolon

For CAP and Family Matters

Mondays, 12-1, StACC, 2/month
Contact Amanda W / Sharon B

For International Mission

Quarterly prayer meeting
Contact Richard Meryon

For Foxhill and Mulberry Park

1st Monday/mth. Prayer Walk
starting at StACC, 6 pm
Contact Steve Rogers

Prayer chain

Activate 50 people to pray with one phone call
Contact Lynne Tisdale or Rosalind M

Vacancy Update



Prayer of the United Methodist Churches Down with Monkton Camble and Sarah H. Stoop

We've heard from the Archdeacon that there has been a lot of interest in our profile which is good news! The closing date for applications is Sunday 11 February, and parish visits and interviews are on Tuesday 6, Wednesday 7 March

Thank you to all those who joined in on the prayer walk. People had a very warm (and tasty!) welcome at each of the 4 churches and there were lots of comings and goings, prayers and good conversations.

This week's prayer request:
Please pray for everyone who is considering applying for the post of vicar. The closing date for applications is 11 February.

PRAYER at HT
Sunday **18** February
7-8 pm, HT

24/7 Prayer
Saturday **3** March
8 pm
-
Sunday **4** March 8 am

X-site Review

X:site - a city wide initiative to bring together children from across the city, run by Bath children's ministers and this month was hosted by us at St Andrew's.

Claire:
"The theme was 'Jesus as the good shepherd' so there were lots of sheep themed activities, including races and sheep shearing, (and shaving foam....!) as well as worship, teaching and prayer. It was lovely to host children and children's ministers from across the city (many of whom were



very impressed by our lovely facilities at St Andrew's!). The next X:site event is at Southdown Methodist Church on 16th March

X:Site
High Energy
For 7-11 yr olds
Live music -
fun & games,
Encountering God &
making new friends

Families First!

Do you recognise the following organisation?

- ⇒ 4 million members
- ⇒ At work in 94 countries.
- ⇒ Been going for over 140 years
- ⇒ Meet monthly at HT or StACC

There are many misconceptions about the work of the Mothers' Union. Elizabeth Perrott and Sue Crookes, both members of HT and the Mothers' Union, are passionate about the difference the MU makes in the UK and across the world.

Elizabeth: "We have MU members in every trouble spot in the world, and so can start to help in a crisis before the Aid Agencies arrive. We are trusted by many governments and are invited by United Nations to advise on sensitive matters."

Another great initiative is to provide holidays for low income families and for people hit by a crisis.

Sue: "We are providing a holiday for all the Grenfell Tower survivors. 4 families from Foxhill toddlers have also been given a holiday or day out by the 'Away from it all' scheme.



provide holidays for low income families and

It's impossible to list all the areas the MU helps in across the world, but here is a flavour:

- Literacy Project, raises the status of women in Africa
- Run creches in prisons
- Support families in all areas of family life: divorce, abortion, infertility, homosexuality, singleness, parenting, domestic violence

Closer to home, it's our MU members who provide a hot lunch and a listening ear at our St Andrew's Toddler Group each week for 50+ people. MU members are also involved in helping run the Neema Craft guest house in Tanzania run by our mission partners Ben and Katy Ray, and also work alongside Heather Sharland in Uganda. And each year at Freshers' Week, the MU hand out MU student cookbooks to freshers at both our Bath unis.

Our MU branch meet each month and always have a speaker on contemporary family issues. The next is Wed 21 February where D Clark will be talking on her role as school nurse at Monkton.

If you'd like to find out more, do chat to Elizabeth Perrott or Sue Crookes.



Staffing News

Finance Officer

The person who had been appointed to this role has unfortunately had to pull out, so the role is vacant. The church leadership is reconsidering this role and will re-advertise as soon as possible. A big thank you to John and Katie Talbot for all their extra work in in our finances at the moment.

StACC Community Outreach Worker and Centre Manager

We have received a grant from St John's to fund this appointment for one year at St Andrew's.

After interviews in January, we are delighted to announce that **Susie**

Houston has been appointed in this role on a one year contract.

Albania Mission

Stuart McLachlan is planning to take a group of 7 **young people** (aged 13-18) to Albania to visit **our mission partners Paul and Albana Alkazraji** at the end of July for a week.

They will be supporting the local church and doing community outreach, helping with the children's and youth programme, and possibly helping with building projects.

The group will be doing fundraising for this trip and also looking for sponsorship. More details to follow on the fundraising being planned.

If you would like to find out more about this trip, please contact Stuart (0771 5634988).

YOUTH MISSION



**TRIP TO
ALBANIA—
END OF
JULY**

PCC Feedback

The PCC met on Tuesday 16 January. Several of the items discussed are mentioned elsewhere in church family matters. Other items are below:

Vacancy – advertising for a new vicar

The schedule for 6 and 7 March for candidate visits and interviews was discussed and the best way of providing an opportunity for the PCC to meet with the candidates.

Update on ministry at St Andrew's

Eli Archer and Ali Sturgess-Durden gave an update on St Andrew's. Foxhill Focus is growing, foodshare is going well as it provides food which can either be frozen or used the next day, at no cost. Provision for children and youth was discussed, attendance by children is irregular but there is a steady core group of boys aged 10-12.

Approaching the APCM and PCC roles

There will be 3 places available on the PCC following the APCM as a number of people come to the end of their term. In particular, the need for someone with HR experience, safeguarding experience, and someone else to represent St Andrew's

GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation)

We need a new database in order to be GDPR compliant. We are looking at packages which offer integrated software for websites.

Finances

The financial information for Pledge Sunday was discussed.

The next PCC meeting is on Tuesday 20 March

An opportunity to shape a community



Our 2018 motto is to be imitators of Christ –

and as we bear His image we influence our community.

Mulberry Park is a new community on our doorstep and it's been exciting to see the new people moving in to their homes. In total 58 houses have been sold and we have visited 50 of them with the Combe Down Community Guide!

There are many ways to get involved and shape this new community – there are lots of voluntary positions available on strategic panels and steering groups. Please do pray and consider if these are places in which you would like to be involved:

- **The Community Space (Hub)** is going to be opened in September and there will be businesses and groups renting the space. Do you want to help influence how this building is utilized?

- **The new nursery and primary school** will be opening in September – there are opportunities to be involved and job opportunities coming up soon!
- **Library User Group** – there is a significant amount of money that can be spent for local library services and they want locals to advise.
- **Off-site allotments and Off-site green spaces User Group** – there is £470k allocated for the development of allotments and green spaces. Local people are needed to get involved and influence decisions.

These are strategic positions which can shape a whole community for good and make a difference to the Kingdom!

If any of these appeal to you, then please do contact Jo Robinson and she will make sure you get connected to the right people to find out more.



Cardboard Testimonies



On Sunday 7 January at the joint 10 am service, church members

were invited to come forward and share a testimony of something God has done in their life.

Many people took part and showed one side of the cardboard describing the situation before prayer, and then turned over the cardboard to show what changed after prayer. It was very moving to see so many situations God had turned around, and many appreciated the honesty and vulnerability shown.

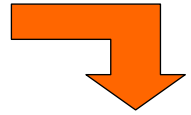
WE ~~NEED~~ PRAYED
FOR A NEW CHURCH
WITH OUR NEW
HOUSE

HERE WE
ARE
HALLELUJAH!

When I moved
from Kenya, I struggled
to settle in to my
New School.

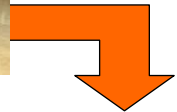
GOD gave
me friends

I was
depressed
and lonely



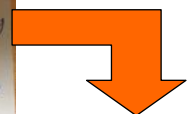
God gave me
hope, my 'Hubbie'
and our son 😊

PRONE
TO
ANXIETY



GOD IS
TEACHING
ME TO TRUST

I didn't really
believe God
would speak to
me



but He did!

I USED TO
HAVE FEELINGS
OF DREAD



THEY ARE
GONE

Sun 4 Feb

HT, 10 am

Joint Service
(9&10.30
together)

Sun 1 April

HT, 9.15

Easter Said
Communion

HT, 10 am

Easter
Celebration with
Baptism

Tues 13 Feb

**Bath
Abbey,
7.30 pm**

Prayers for the
city followed by
pancakes



Sat 17 Feb

**Family Film
Afternoon**

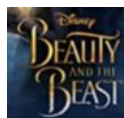
StACC, 3.30 pm



Sat 14 April

**Family Film
Afternoon**

StACC, 3.30 pm



Key Dates

Tues 27 Feb

**CAP Money
Course**

StACC, 7.30 pm

A 4 week course
running till 20
March. A money
management
course which
teaches budgeting
skills in an informal
and inspiring way.



24-25

Mar

**Women's
Weekend**

Ammerdown

Speaker: Jo
Swinney

Contact church
office for more
information.



Sun 20 May

**Love
Combe
Down**

Firs Field, pm

Following the
success of last
year, get this
date in your
diary for Love
Combe Down
2018

