



# ST THOMAS CHURCH LANCASTER

SHARING GOD'S LOVE FROM THE HEART OF THE CITY

Charity No 113 0550

ST. THOMAS' BULLETIN

**A WARM WELCOME** to any visitors. Please fill in a contact form on the back of this bulletin, so that we can get to know you and leave it in the grey box on the Welcome desk. Do stay for a drink and chat.

## 17TH SEPTEMBER—TEARFUND SUNDAY

9am Holy Communion Service  
11am Morning Service  
7pm Evening Service



**TODAY** we are welcoming Jane Pleace from Tearfund. Jane will preach, from John 6, at each service during the day.

**MISSION PRAYER PARTNER FOR SEPTEMBER IS TEARFUND**



**JOHN DART** On Wednesday we heard the sad news that John had passed away late on Tuesday evening. Jon was a member of St Thomas since 1936 and was just shy of his 106th birthday. He will be greatly missed. Arrangements for a Thanksgiving service are currently ongoing.

**MESSY CHURCH** Church but not as you know it! On **Tuesday 19th October** 3:30- 5:30. It's for children 2 to 8 yrs olds and their families.



**EXTRA TIME** this **Tuesday 19th** October downstairs in the Church Centre (behind the Church). Please come along for a 10-30 start or 10-15 for coffee and biscuits. This week we welcome Nicholas Heale with a talk entitled "Pilgrimage Canterbury to Rome". Please come and join with us.

**HARVEST APPEAL, 1st October:** We will be collecting in tins and supplies for the Olive Branch food bank which helps many of the most needy in our city; and for the local Women's refuge. Look out for our brown paper bags and a list of needed supplies, and please return them to church on **Sunday 1st October**.



**NEWCOMERS' BRUNCH, Sunday 1st October:** If you've joined the church in the past year or so, or have never been to a newcomers' social event before, then this is for you! We're offering brunch, 10am til 11am in the downstairs centre. If you can't make it, there will be another event on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November Oct, 7.30pm, (the venue will be confirmed) – or come to both!

**ST THOMAS' BOOK GROUP 23<sup>rd</sup> September** at **11am** at the Storey Café. We will meet to discuss: The Blackhouse by Peter May. We meet in the main bar area. You are welcome whether or not you have read the book! For further information please contact **Alison Purvis** via the church office.

**WALKING GROUP, Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September.** All fit hikers are welcome to join our high-level walk starting from Chapel le Dale, near Ingleton. The route goes up Ingleborough (6 miles, ascends 1400 feet), weather permitting. We will leave the church car park at 9.30am. Please bring lunch, drinks, warm clothing, waterproofs and boots. For further details or if a lift is required please contact Stephen & Sally Taylor, [taylorsallya@gmail.com](mailto:taylorsallya@gmail.com).

**WOMEN'S DAY WITH KATE COLEMAN.** Sat **23rd September** 2017 at St Mary's Church, Allithwaite. 10.00am-4pm. Details on the noticeboard.

**BAPTISM BY IMMERSION** – on **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Sept**, we will be offering baptism by immersion. If you might be interested in getting baptised that day, please contact Jon Scamman on [jon@st.tees.org.uk](mailto:jon@st.tees.org.uk) to discuss this.

**DAY OF PRAYER** for a spiritual awakening in Lancashire. **30th September** at the University of Cumbria in Lancaster, in the Lancaster Hall from 10am to 4pm

**STAG BONFIRE AND BBQ** On **30<sup>th</sup> September**, 2017 at 7pm STAG men's ministry will be having a bonfire and BBQ. There will be loads of meat [+veggie option], a big fire and plenty of cake. Soft drinks will be provided but feel free to bring a tipples of your choice if you like. It will be held at the Carter's and you can sign up either on Church Suite or on the sign-up sheet at the back of Church. Cost will be £5 per person. This has always been a great evening so why not invite a friend and pay for them. More details from Dave Carter or Craig Abbott [[craig@st.tees.org.uk](mailto:craig@st.tees.org.uk)]



**9 AM AWAY DAY 21ST OCTOBER** We are very much looking forward to welcoming Bishop Philip North to our Away Day on **21st October**, from 10 am – 3.30pm at Brookhouse Methodist Church. Children's activities will be provided. Please put this date in your diary. Further information and booking forms will be available in September. Join us there for an inspirational day, worshipping together, hearing about our role in God's mission, and getting to know each other better.

**THE LOST ART OF LIVING** – Lancaster Health Festival 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> September. Various venues including St Thomas' on **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>** at 7.30pm The Lost Art of public conversation and on **Sat 23<sup>rd</sup>** 'People's Café.' Details from <https://www.facebook.com/The-Lost-Art-of-Living-160585984504107> or program on the Welcome desk

## NOTICES

**ALPHA** This year, **Alpha will be held straddling the Easter period.** The first half of Alpha focuses on Jesus and the bible, so to have this lead into the time where we remember and celebrate the life, death and resurrection of Jesus could be helpful for those on the course. The second half of Alpha explores the person and role of the Holy Spirit and the way He empowers us to live when we follow Jesus. This falls nicely into Pentecost – when we remember that the Holy Spirit



fills and empowers the church to fulfil Christ's Commission . There will be a baptism and confirmation service with Bishop Philip on **Sunday 17th June**, once Alpha has finished.

**TALKING ABOUT JESUS** Usually at this time of year, we would prepare to run Alpha and ask everyone to think about inviting a friend. But does the thought of that fill you (like others) with mixed emotions? – dread, embarrassment, awkwardness, feeling stumped for answers. Or perhaps that our own questions about our faith flood to mind. I would love to gather together those of us who don't know where to begin in talking about Jesus outside church in order to wrestle with some of these challenges with each other, over a pint (or half) somewhere. If you would like to join the conversation, drop me an email at [claire@st.tees.org.uk](mailto:claire@st.tees.org.uk) (more details to follow)

**SAFEGUARDING TRAINING** You may have noticed that there is no safeguarding training booked in for adults or children this year. This is due to the Church of England rolling out a new policy (due to be released very soon) which combines children and adults safeguarding together. The training is also combined, has been standardized nationally and will be delivered by staff and volunteers from the diocese. Everyone who works/volunteers with children, young people and adults who may be vulnerable needs to complete the C0 course. This is an interactive online course, is completely free and takes up to one hour to complete. All you need is access to the internet and an email address. The link for this is: <https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/course/view.php?id=7> if you do not have access to the internet we can provide a computer in the church office to assist. Please contact [admin@st.tees.org.uk](mailto:admin@st.tees.org.uk) or [Mary-Jayne.Carter@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Mary-Jayne.Carter@hotmail.co.uk) if you need further information. Please also provide the church office with a copy of your certificate once completed for our records. Many thanks, Mary-Jayne Carter, Safeguarding Adviser.

**CHURCH BOILER UPDATE** – a great deal of work has been done to get our boilers sorted for the autumn. Including getting professional advice, receiving tenders from 6 contractors, securing the necessary planning permission from the diocese, and booking the least expensive contractor to carry out the work for £23,212 (ex VAT). Work on new, improved, more powerful boilers is due to start tomorrow, 18th October with heat due to be restored by 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

**WITH FAITH IN MIND** A series of events in **October** by Churches Together in partnership with Lancashire Mind, which explore how Churches can promote mental health and wellbeing. Details are on the noticeboard in the foyer.

**MADE IN GOD'S IMAGE**; exploring gender and discipleship. **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October** 10am - 4pm at St Mary's church Ambleside. Speaker Rev Terrie Robinson, Director for Women in Church and Society, the Anglican Communion.

**CAFÉ CONNECT** - A meeting place for international students and visiting scholars to make friends, practise English. Running until **Thursday 28th** September. Meeting on Thursdays from 7pm – 9pm in the Chaplaincy Centre Lounge on Lancaster University Campus.

**PHOTOS IN CHURCH:** In line with our safeguarding policies which are intended to keep children and vulnerable adults safe in church, please do not take photos or videos in church services without asking permission of the clergy first.

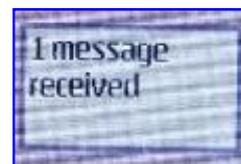


**PASTORAL ISSUES** Please inform the church office or one of the leadership of any pastoral needs that arise such as illness, accidents or bereavements.

**PRAYER MINISTRY CORNER** As a church, we offer prayer ministry after every main service, in the prayer ministry area at the back right corner of the main church building. If you would like prayer for anything at all, please don't hesitate to go over to the prayer ministry corner, and ask a member of the prayer ministry team to pray with you.

**PASTORAL PRAYER CHAIN** Please send your prayer requests to Margaret Stocks 66257

**TEXT-A-PRAYER** If you would like us to pray about anything at all, please text your request to **075 34 998 205** Texts will be read and prayed for each Sunday. We will not send replies. Texts will be treated in confidence (in line with our safeguarding policy).



**VALUABLES** Keep your valuables with you all the time while in church, even when going to take Communion or for prayer.

**MISSION SUPPORT** If you would like to be included in the monthly prayer e-mail update for our 'Mission Partner of the Month' please send your email address to the office, [office@st.tees.org.uk](mailto:office@st.tees.org.uk)

If you have recently come to St Thomas's, we'd like to welcome you & get to know you. Please fill this information in, & hand it in at the Welcome desk

Name <small>(Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms Other)</small>	
Address	
Postcode	
Telephone	
Email	
Children <small>(include DOB)</small>	
If you are interested in joining a Life Group tick here <input type="checkbox"/>	
If you are a student tick here <input type="checkbox"/>	
Is there anything particular you would like to get involved in?	

Which service have you come to?      9am   
 11am       7pm

Please could you indicate your age group.  
 Under 20   
 20-30   
 30-50   
 Over 50

Please tick if you **DON'T** wish your information to be held on our database

For Office Use	
Date	card
Followed up?	<input type="checkbox"/>
By:	
Date:	
Notes.	

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