Saltash Area Newsletter

October 2018

DISCOVERING GOD'S KINGDOM – GROWING THE CHURCH
www.saltashteamministry.org

OCTOBER

Regular Events

Mon 1, 15 October
2-3.30pm
St Stephen's Church
Craft & Conversation

Tue 9 October
2pm
St Stephen's Church
Mothers' Union

Thu 11, 25 October
7.30pm
St Stephen's Church
Mixed Blessings

Tue 16 October
9.30am
St Stephen's Church
Tea and Toast

Thu 18 October
7.30pm
St Stephen's Church
Ladies' Group

Fri 19 October
Noon
S.T.A.R.T Group
Saltash Churches Together

Sat 20 October
3pm
St Stephen's Church
Messy Church
People of the World

Counting Our Blessings

Just where has the summer gone? It really wasn't long ago that we were looking forward to the schools breaking up, to long days of summer sun (we really haven't done too badly this year), and eating outdoors. And now Autumn has begun to set in and we look forward to celebrating Harvest – a time to reflect on how fortunate we are to have such a wealth of food readily available to us, a situation which is far from reality for many in the world.

We are truly blessed in so many ways, but many are not as fortunate:

- If you own a Bible, you are abundantly blessed. One third of the world does not have access to even one.
- If you woke up this morning with more health than illness, you are more blessed than the million who will not survive the week.
- If you have never experienced the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture or the pangs of starvation, you are ahead of 500 million people around the world.
- If you attend a church meeting without fear of harassment, arrest, torture, or death, you are more blessed that almost three billion people in the world.
- If you have food in your refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof over your head and a place to sleep, you are richer than 75% of this world.
- If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, and spare change in a dish, you are among the top 8% of the world's wealthy.
- If your parents are still married and alive, you are very rare.
- If you hold up your head with a smile on your face and are truly thankful, you are blessed because the majority can, but most do not.
- If you can hold someone's hand, hug them or even touch them on the shoulder, you are blessed because you can offer God's healing touch.
- If you prayed yesterday and today, you are in the minority because you believe in God's willingness to hear and answer prayer.

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OCTOBER

Special Events

Fri 5 October
7pm
St Stephen's Church
Songs of Praise and Harvest Faith Supper

Sat 6 October
10am
St Nicholas & St Faith
Opening of the Church and Bell Tower

Sun 7 October
12.30pm
St Nicholas and St Faith Church Rooms
Harvest Lunch

12.30pm
St Mary Church Hall
Harvest Lunch

Thu 11 October
7pm St Mary's
then The Rising Sun
Harvest Evensong followed by Auction

Sat 13 October
9-11am
St Stephen's Church
Food Market & Table Top Sale

7.30pm
St Stephen's Church
Four Lanes Male Choir Concert

Wed 24 October
10am to Noon
St Mary's Church Hall
Coffee morning

SERVICES

SUNDAYS

St Nicholas & St Faith

8am Holy Communion

10am Holy Communion

St Stephen's

10am All Age Service (1st Sunday) Holy Communion (2nd to 4th Sundays)

6.30pm Evensong (2nd to 4th Sundays)

St Michael, Landrake

9.30am Holy Communion

St Mary, Botus Fleming

11.15am Family Service (1st Sunday) Holy Communion (2nd & 4th Sundays) Morning Prayer (3rd Sunday)

St Erney, Landrake

11.15am Morning Prayer (1st Sunday) Holy Communion (3rd Sunday)

Saltash Churches Together

6.30pm Combined Service 7 October at Wesley Methodist Church

WEDNESDAYS

St Stephen's

10.30am Holy Communion

Our parishes will shortly be celebrating our blessings with services of Harvest Festival. So as we count our blessings, please do think about those who do not have as much as we do – and if you can – please bring along food to your local church for the gifts to be blessed during one of our services of Harvest Festival. Alternatively, please donate some food to your local Foodbank. Drop off points are in the supermarkets, or alternatively please donate gifts of food (tins, and dried food – not fresh please) via your local parish church and we will pass them on.

On behalf of those who are not as fortunate as we are – thank you.

Every blessing to you all,
Yours in Christ,
Cathy

Saltash foodbank

Food For Thought

By now nearly everyone is aware of the FOODBANK and its attempt to reach out to families and individuals who are facing a difficult period due to all kinds of circumstances. Perhaps you give generously through providing food for them in the boxes at the back of each church, or through popping something into the collection container at Waitrose, or through the 'one off' collection days held at the Co-operative store. This is good and still needful.

What is also very needful are volunteers to help at the Warehouse on a Monday /Wednesday morning or at the Drop-in Centre on Monday/ Friday afternoons. It means sparing a little more time than giving food as well as bringing you into contact with those who desperately depend upon the service that FOODBANK provides.

You may be thinking: I wouldn't know what to do/say? I'm not very good at meeting with people!

How on earth would I manage? **Don't fret, don't fear** you will not be alone because there will be someone with you to help and support. Before you know it you, you will find you are a seasoned helper and have made friends with an active and devotive group of helpers.

☎ 0800 328 2124.

GO ON – DO IT TODAY

Items Wanted, Please: for the New Gift stall at St Stephen's November Fair (Saturday 10 November). If you have any new items received as gifts that just aren't for you, then please pass them to Steve Hookway or Roger Rowse.

Recent Events

Mothers' Union

On the second Tuesday in September, 15 members met in St Stephen's to listen to Mr David Pitcher talk about his work, helping children in difficult circumstances. David, who is a member of St Nicholas congregation, is a 'Children's Guardian'. He is appointed by the court to represent children who are experiencing problems due to their parents' differences. Children are often caught in the middle of couples' conflicts and David is appointed to support them. Communication is a large part of David's life, and he is sure that his faith has helped him to cope with his stressful work life.

On the 9th November at 2 pm, we shall welcome the newly appointed President of Truro Diocese, Mrs Sheila Waring, who is going to talk about a new Mothers Union Initiative 'MULOA'. Watch this space.

Messy Church

The church was busy on 15th September, when we gathered to celebrate 'Harvest' and God's Gifts. Around 50 adults and children took part in worship and made crafts, such as Bird Feed Balls and feeder, Bees and Fruit Hedgehogs. When this activity was finished, we joined in a short service and then enjoyed tea together.

Thank you to all the people who helped make the session a success.

We meet again on Saturday 20 October in St Stephen's Church, when the theme is 'People of the World'.

GSS Chapter of Our Lady Star of the Sea and St George

At the September meeting at St Stephen by Saltash Church, John West was officially made a full member of the Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary after completing a year as a probationer Server. Father David Bailey, the Chaplain for the Chapter, welcomed John into the Guild. This was followed by refreshments then a short quiet prayer time and Compline.

Samaritan's Purse

Yes it's that time of the year!

As in previous years, we are supporting the Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Appeal. If you would like to take part, leaflets giving details of how to pack your box will be available in the Saltash churches.

There will also be a deposit box for donations of single items that will be used to fill additional boxes.
Margaret Dell ☎ 01752 846945

Recent Events (continued)

Gloucester Coach Trip

The trip was a great success and a good time was had by all. Thank you to John Lissenden for organising it.

At St Nicholas & St Faith

Once again August has come and gone, and our all day breakfasts are over for another year.

The Social Committee would like to say a very big thank you to all who supported this event, and all those who worked behind the scenes in the cooking thereof etc., as well as acting as waitresses. This year our new large electric grill and frying pan came into play which made the job of cooking eggs and bacon so much more efficient. Of course there are always times when there might have been a little wait due to the volume of orders coming in at the same time, but we aim to get them out as soon as we can. At one time we had 15 orders in the queue. We are not a professional kitchen but on the whole I don't think we do badly.

Also, our exhibition in Church Hatches, Matches and Dispatches is over for another year. We have had people visiting the Church from as far away as Australia, Canada, and Helsinki this year, as well as those who visit from all over our country. Comments written in our visitors book have been extremely favourable.

Annual Skittles Challenge 3 November, 7pm

Not long to go, keep practising!

Deanery Discipleship Course

The Deanery Discipleship course (see page 7) begins on October 2 and will take place over the following ten weeks. If you haven't signed up for it yet, then please do pray about whether or not the course is for you. Even if you believe that the course is not for you, I would ask that everyone prays the following prayer each day – a prayer of blessing on our country, our communities and each and every one of us.

'We bless the United Kingdom, that it would prosper under the mighty hand of God. We bless each region that the joy of the Lord might be its strength, knowing that Jesus is the Head over all regions and nations. We bless each region that the knowledge of Jesus might come in like a flood. We bless each village, town, city, coast-land, seaport and airport. We bless every community with being restored by God to righteousness, justice and integrity. We bless those in authority to be freed to lead with wisdom and discernment, and that strong, faithful men and women will serve our people and our churches.

We bless the people of God and the churches within our borders, that the Holy Spirit and the Word of God may flow out in power. We unite to bless the sound of celebrations as those from every generation are set free through the message of Freedom In Christ. We bless each region that the Lord's face may turn towards us, shine upon us, be gracious to us and give us peace. City gates and ancient doors of our regions stand back and open wide for the Glorious King shall soon pass your way! The Eternal, Commander of Heaven's Army, He is the Glorious King, powerful and mightily equipped for battle.'

Adapted from The Blessing at Ffald-y-Brenin South Wales

FAIRTRADE

For the last eight or nine years Len and I have been running the Fairtrade stall at St Stephens. During this time we have seen many changes to Fairtrade products and customers likes and dislikes – are they dieting or diabetic and trying to find popular lines is proving more difficult. Traidcraft has during the summer decided that it will not be able to supply traders like ourselves with discounted products if we do not sell over a certain amount during a year. We would find it hard to meet this target as many of our goods go out of date before they are sold. And, whilst I was writing this piece to go in the Newsletter an email arrived from Traidcraft – part of which I have copied here.

Traidcraft plc's recent trading has been poor, and despite enormous efforts by staff, management, Fair Traders, and many fair trade shops over the last few years to reverse the company's performance we have not yet succeeded. Traidcraft plc's assets remain considerably greater than its liabilities, and while this remains the case the Board of Directors believe it is prudent to close our current loss-making trading operations. Traidcraft plc's mission to put the principles of fair trade into commercial practice is not, in any sense, fulfilled but we appreciate that it is time to consider new approaches.

We are very much aware of the impact that this will have on our producer friends. Over the years we have built up personal and trusting relationships with many organisations and we deeply regret that these will be coming to an end. We are communicating with all our partners to see if we can help them transfer their business to other organisations.

Traidcraft plc will continue to trade as usual through the autumn and to the end of 2018. We are proud that our final autumn craft collection is one of the best we have produced. Artisans throughout the world have contributed to the range and we have placed great focus on quality and design. We look forward to working with all our supporters right through the season, and we would like to invite our customers to help us end our current trading operations with our best season ever. All products can be purchased online at the Traidcraft Shop.

Traidcraft Exchange, our sister charity, continues to work with farmers, workers and artisans in Africa and South Asia to help them get a better deal from trade, and to lobby and campaign in the UK for better trade rules. It's the support of Fair Traders – donating their surpluses, running Big Brews, handing out campaign postcards and much more – that helps Traidcraft Exchange speak out against injustice in trade so effectively. Traidcraft Exchange is aware that it shares many of the same supporters as Traidcraft plc and is keen to ensure that it can keep in touch with you directly.

Len and I had already decided that we would cease to trade after displaying all the items that we have accumulated and not sold. We will be selling as much as we can at a discount, we would like to be able to cover our costs and if there is anything over we will send it to Traidcraft Exchange to encourage their work. Most of the items are Christmas related, some Easter Cards, birthday cards etc., rubber gloves and some handicrafts. It is such a shame that this has happened. There is enough tea and coffee for the caterers to last a good long time as I have just taken delivery of an order. So much help has been given to those less able to compete in a very commercial world and helped them gain independence and the ability to work together to improve family life.

Sylvia and Len

Many Thanks

Pat and John Petherbridge would like to thank everyone who supported them at the Renewal of Wedding Vows ceremony at St Stephen's Church on 16 September to celebrate our Diamond Wedding Anniversary. Also for the many cards, flowers, gifts and messages of congratulation that we received. Special thanks to Rev, Josie for the lovely and sincere way that she conducted the service – a service that will hold many memories for us for the rest of our lives. It is a privilege that we are able to worship God in our spiritual home with so many good Christian friends. God bless you all.

What's On

Songs of Praise & Harvest Faith Supper

St Stephen's Church
Friday 5 October, 7pm

All are very welcome to come along and join us as we sing some of our favourite hymns, during which a collection for The Royal British Legion (Saltash Branch) will take place.

A Harvest Faith Supper will then follow at around 8pm. So please bring along a plate of something sweet or savoury to share.

Bell Tower Visits

St Nicholas & St Faith
Saturday 6 October, 10-4pm

Our Church will open, and there will be visits to the bell tower. Coffee/tea and biscuits will be served throughout the day.

Harvest Lunches

St Mary
Sunday 7 October, 12.30pm

St Nicholas & St Faith
Sunday 7 October, 12.30pm

There is a sign up list at the back of the Church for Cheese or Ham Ploughman's.

Harvest Evensong & Auction of Goods

St Mary
Thursday 11 October, 7pm

Our harvest evensong service will be followed by an auction of goods at The Rising Sun.

Food Market & Table Top Sale

St Stephen's Church
Saturday 13 October 9am to 11.30am

Come along and find a bargain or unearth a new treasure from our table toppers. Local food traders will also be bringing along their produce for you to try and buy including many regular favourites.

Local charities, including 2nd Saltash Scout Group, Saltash Children's Appeal, Saltash Lions Club, Saltash Branch of the Royal British Legion and Saltash Alzheimer's Society, will be attending too so please support them.

Church Fundraising Stalls will also be present.

Refreshments will be available including bacon rolls and toasted tea cakes.

Please email your articles to ruth.l.edmondson@gmailcom or pop them in to the Team Office. The deadline is the 20 October.

Sing we for Pleasure for One and All

St Stephen's Church
Saturday 13 October, 7.30pm

Four Lanes Male Choir will be coming to our Church for the first time and it will be a rare opportunity to catch them in this part of the county. The Choir, who won best Cornish Choir for 41 voices and over in 2015 and recently sang with former Britain's Got Talent Winner, Paul Potts, will be entertaining us with favourites such as *Climb Every Mountain, Love Changes Everything, Bring Him Home and Do You Hear The People Sing* from *Les Mis* and an anthem from *Oliver.*

Four Lanes have been under the leadership of popular character Tim Hosken since 2014. Tim is also MD of the Penzance Choral Society. In 2005 he was awarded the prestigious Cornwhylan Cross for musical performances and in 2008 was made a Cornish Bard.

Joining in the entertainment of the evening will be our very own Darren and Claire.

So, a great night's entertainment to be had for only £5 (accompanied Under 16's free). Tickets are available from Roger Rowse following Sunday morning services or from Sandra McKee on Wednesdays mornings or you can purchase from Piglets Fore Street, or contact Roger on 01752 843766 or pay on the night. Doors open 6.45pm.

What's On (cont.)

Craft Fair

Saltash Wesley Methodist Church
Sat 20 October, 10-3pm

St Stephen's fundraising stall will be one of over 40 stalls present at this yearly event. There will be games and entertainment for all the family and a model railway on show too. Refreshments and Light Lunches will be available. 50p entry. All profits to Charity.

Coffee Morning

St Mary's Church Hall
Wed 24 October, 10-Noon

Just £2 for coffee, biscuits and conversation.

Also

Deanery Teaching Evenings

Bishop Cornish School. Starts Tuesday 2 October from 7-9pm

East Wivelshire Deanery is embarking on a new discipleship teaching initiative – one where we can gather from across the Deanery to journey and learn together. Our first offering is based on the Freedom in Christ course – a course that has been used in many churches to bring transformation into people's lives. The feedback from previous participants of this course show that it is both an enjoyable and effective form of teaching, allowing people to explore who they really are as a Christian.

The course has ten sessions (on consecutive Tuesdays) and covers areas such as the key truths of the Christian life, breaking the hold of the past and how we grow as disciples. There will also be a one-day session on a Saturday in November. Course materials will be provided.

Please contact Rev. Tony Stephens by calling him on 01579 371496 or emailing revtonystephens@icloud.com

Free To Be

Hope Baptist Church, Plymouth PL3 4QG. Wed 10 Oct 7.30pm

'It is for freedom that Christ set us free.' Free to Be is an event for Christian women to gather together for an evening of encouragement where you will 'come away with a renewed vision of your identity in Christ and with a fresh perspective of what freedom really looks like'. To book cff.org.uk/freetobe or tickets on the night. There will be refreshments from 6.15pm.

Poem of the Month – My Lord, My Companion

As I stand on the world's highest mountains, I know You are with me
As I walk in the world's deepest valleys, I know You are there
As I sail on the world's deepest seas, I know You are by my side
As I view the endless blue waters, I am reminded of Your eternal love
As I walk in the world's thickets forests, I know You are by my side
As I cast my eyes on the blue endless skies, I am reminded of Your infinite love
As I cross the world's largest deserts, I know You care for me
As I look at the landscapes, I am glad for You created them all
As I travel the world's greatest cities, Your company keeps me whole
As I fly in the world's biggest planes, Your presence comforts me
As I take a walk in the countryside, You keep me company
As I inhale the spring scented morning breeze, I know You will always be there each day
As I cycle downtown with my hair flowing backwards, I know You won't abandon me.
As I walk down the street my soul rejoices and I am glad for You first loved me.

Hope Tshuma