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St John's and St Luke's Together

St John's Church



October
2021
50 pence

St Luke's Church

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LETTER FROM THE RECTOR



2500 years ago, the ancient Greek philosopher, Heraclitus is reputed to have written, ***'The only thing that is constant is change.'*** and it seems to me that we are living in an age where this saying has never been more true. Here are some examples:

technological advance is happening with bewildering speed; social media have changed our culture significantly; attitudes to sexuality and gender have radically altered; the Black Lives Matter movement has highlighted deep historic and current injustices that can no longer be ignored; the world political order is shifting rapidly with the rise of populist politicians, and the recent events in Afghanistan may be showing the decline of the USA as global Chinese influence continues to grow. All this without even mentioning the ongoing impact of Brexit and the significant changes caused by the pandemic, or at least speeding up by its influence, not least more home working and the decline of the high street.

Now it could be that as Christians we carry on regardless, because we have, as Scripture tells us, an unchanging God who is the same, yesterday, today and forever, and He can be relied on to be always with us – all of which is absolutely true. But actually, such an ostrich-like approach will not do, because the church has always had the **calling** to speak into and help shape culture, to be its critical friend, so to speak; and it has always had the **responsibility** to 'translate', so to speak, the unchanging gospel so that it can be heard in the culture that it finds itself in, and that translation will have many forms ranging from food banks to the Alpha course, from responding to the challenges caused by the pandemic to accessible and relevant services. But that translation must always be motivated and shaped by the words of Jesus – namely to **love God and to love neighbour**.

It is for this reason that later in the Autumn, (starting Wednesday 3rd November) we will be facilitating a group that give people the chance to enter into conversations about the **'Living in Love and Faith'** resource issued by the Church of England seeking to address some pretty big questions, namely, *'How do questions about identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage fit within the bigger picture of the good news of Jesus Christ? What does it mean to live in love and faith together as a Church?* It may be that we hold a variety of deeply held views on these questions, so the aim is not to come up with definitive answers but through discussion to help

foster greater understanding of why people hold the views they do in an environment of trust, respect and mutual listening.

That need to love God and appropriately love neighbour is also shaping our desire to grow our relationships with local schools, and **Emma, our young people's worker**, will be taking the lead as we re-engage with school assemblies and offer some mentoring in one of the local secondary schools in partnership with Mowbray Community Church – do pray for this. Our appointment of Emma has brought great changes to our mission and ministry, but it does not come for free – we have in place most of the funding for her role for the first 3 years – but believe it or not, we are nearly halfway through those 3 years already, and we want to continue to invest in this ministry into the future, so if you would like to give financially to support her role, please contact the office church@stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk for more details or speak to Simon or Laura.

Now while change is constant, it is not always welcome, and the last 18 months have seen us losing many friends and loved ones – so on Sunday 31st October at 3.30pm we will be holding a **Service of Lament and Remembering** at St John's to which all are welcome – and do feel free to invite people.

Finally, as we speak of change, can I put on record my warmest thanks to **Andy** for his ministry here for the past 5 years. Please pray for him, Claire, Tom and Orla as they adjust to life in Sheffield, and, if this does not seem too hasty, for the right person to replace him in due time.

Every blessing

Simon



PAUL TENNYSON

Many friends, family and colleagues attended Paul's funeral on 23rd September at St John's, and our sympathy goes to Mary and all Paul's family.

You are invited to send us your memories and tributes for next month's obituary.

FAREWELL TO ANDY

Last weekend Andy and his family bid us farewell on Saturday evening at St John's and during his final service on Sunday at St Luke's. We wish them all the best for their new life in Dore.

A message from the Patricks:

Thank you so much for all the lovely messages, cards, and gifts - what a wonderful send off you've given us this weekend. We will forever be grateful for your love, kindness, and generosity over these last 5 years. We'll miss you! With our love, Andy, Claire, Tom, and Orla.



CAN YOU SPARE SOME TIME TO HELP WITH ONE OF THESE GROUPS?

With most of our groups restarting in September, we are in need of extra volunteers to help:

Pastoral Team

Baptism Team

Creche (SJ)

Little Sparks (reception—year 2) (SJ)

Refreshments after services (4 times per year) (SJ)

Setting up of Communion before services (SJ)

If you would like to know more about one of these roles and how you can help, please get in touch with Gill in the parish office to find out more.

If we do not get some more volunteers then we may have to start to limit the activities we can provide.

All roles are subject to the necessary Safer Recruitment checks.

ST JOHN'S & ST LUKE'S

SMALL GROUPS



Introduction

Home groups are a vital element of a healthy church – indeed research shows that, *'multiplication of small groups is a universal church growth principle'* especially if they must *'go beyond just discussing Bible passages to applying them to daily life. In these groups people can safely share personal life concerns and learn to serve others, both inside and outside the group, with their spiritual gifts'* (Christian Schwarz). And no doubt some of us will have experienced significant and deep fellowship in our home groups.

Moreover, COVID19 and the impact it has had on the church seems to have given us/forced upon us a great opportunity to evaluate our groups – their purpose/vision, function/effectiveness.

And this evaluation has led us to want to establish some new groups while renewing existing ones.

We believe small groups can/should:

- increase a sense of **belonging** to Christ and His church
- stimulate **spiritual growth** through shared exploring of the Bible, prayer and mutual encouragement
- **equip people** for service of God in the church and the world

A crucial principle is that groups model the '**Up, In, Out**' triangle:

Up to God and understanding His love for us through worship, getting to grips with the Bible and prayer

In by sharing our lives, challenges and joys – what we would often call fellowship

Out by sharing God's love through service, action and mission

Update

Three new small groups have formed over the past six months – two evening groups and a day-time group on a Tuesday lunchtime. As Covid restrictions relax, these groups will be able to add members.

This season, groups are using the Discovery Bible process to study the Gospel of John.

We also have a small walking group meeting once a month – see below

If you would like to join a group

In the meantime, we want to encourage as many people as possible to consider prayerfully joining a new group. In order to facilitate this, you can express your interest in the following ways:

- Emailing the church office church@stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk
- Putting your name on the sign up list on the notice boards at St John's and St Luke's
- Speaking to/contacting Rev Simon Dowson, 07735 532821
simon.dowson@leeds.anglican.org
or Sarah Shepherd 07771 847149 sarah.shepherd@btinternet.com

Walking Group

We met for our first walk on Tuesday 7th September and were blessed with glorious weather. Our walk took us down by the River Nidd, round by the Gardener's Arms - we didn't stop on this occasion, though sorely tempted!! - Bilton Lane and the old railway line back to where we'd set off - around 3 miles on this occasion. We had many reasons to offer thanks to God: company, fellowship, returning health, squirrels playing, a wild cyclamen poking through the mud, the majesty of the trees, the brilliance of the view towards Bilton as we rose from the river - and did so with a short prayer as we set off, a spontaneous prayer en route and another as we went our separate ways. Our next walk will be Tuesday 12th October when we intend to walk to Ripley and back, possibly taking a picnic lunch with us or grabbing a bite of something in Ripley. If you'd like to join us, do please get in touch for more details (janereichert@hotmail.com) - it would be lovely to see you. Thank you. *Jane Reichert*

SONGS OF PRAISE



This has been a part of parish life for many years. Under normal circumstances it's once a quarter on the last Saturday of January, April, July and October in St John's Church Hall from 3 to 5 pm. Some find it difficult to attend church for one reason or another (even though St John's and St Luke's are friendly and welcoming) but they

like to attend Songs of Praise and sing hymns, alongside regular church members. So it's not a service with prayers and sermon, but a friendly social gathering. Frogs are welcome as well as nightingales!

Each session is led by one of the clergy, who introduces the hymns with a brief word about the writer, or about the hymn itself. Hymns may be old or new, choruses or even 'golden oldies', and people are invited to say why they have chosen a particular hymn (but don't have to). Requests are sent to David a couple of weeks before, so that he can make sure he can play them, prepare a programme, and then send it to whoever is leading in time for him or her to do a bit of research. Half-way through the event we break for tea (delicious) with cakes etc provided by a kind group of ladies.



At present in church we are limited to singing a couple of hymns, wearing masks. That's not easy, and it might still apply for some time. To wear a mask for about 14 hymns would not be practicable or advisable. So, reluctantly, we have to say that there will be NO Songs of Praise in October.

On average about 40 people attend. But, sadly, over the past year some have died, and some have become house-bound. So it would be helpful to know what level of support to expect if we start again in January. We hope we can.

If you want Songs of Praise to continue (with your support), please let us know.

David and Linda 01423 522828

ANNOUNCING THE RETURN OF TRAIDCRAFT STALLS TO OUR CHURCHES!

We are re-ordering a number of staples which will be available in church at the catalogue prices (so you save postage) - dried fruit, nuts, sugar, coffee, chocolate and a few gifts to begin with.

We will order other gifts with Christmas in mind including Christmas cards. If there are other items you would like, do please speak to us.

We will also stock Artizan International cards.

We receive a small discount for ordering as a church which we contribute to the tea and coffee funds.

The stall will be available at least once a month at the 10.30 Sunday service at St John's and most 10.30 Sunday services at St Luke's. If you are willing to help with the stalls on a Sunday, we would very much welcome you. Just speak to Caroline or Sarah.



If you would like to purchase Traidcraft items and are not in church, please do speak to either of us, and we'll happily do a home delivery.

Sarah Shepherd 07771 847149, 01423 520948 sarah.shepherd@btinternet.com
Caroline Randall 07792 392158, 01423 526015

A MESSAGE FROM ONE OF OUR SENIOR MEMBERS

I want to say thank you to Emma for the way in which she has encouraged the young people to make contact with older members of the parish.

Sophie phoned me in January and since then we have been in touch very regularly. It has given me great pleasure to hear about what she was studying at school and her hopes for the future. We have talked at great length and had lots of laughs. We chatted briefly when she was ill with the virus and much longer when she was preparing to go to university.

I hope that others who have been in contact with the members of Emma's group will have had the same enjoyable experience.

Well done Emma for a brilliant idea – may it continue to give the same happiness to others as it has to me.

Pat McArthur





Our first **COFFEE MORNING** in 18 months was held at St John's last Saturday and what a superb response we had. A magnificent **£740** was raised to be shared by Horticap and our Green Team to support the work they are doing. Thank you to all those that contributed, attended and donated. Those who came were able to see some of what the Green Team has been doing in the churchyard.



Next month's coffee morning is on **Saturday 9th October, 10am-12noon**. (See below) We are in need of tombola and raffle prizes and books for the stalls. If you have any donations please leave in the boxes at the back of either church. There are also stalls selling handmade cards and homemade jams and chutneys. Put the date in your diary! All proceeds will be donated to Tearfund in support of the **HAITI EARTHQUAKE** appeal to add to the £500 already donated on behalf of the finance committee. Helpers needed, please contact the office.

**Do you like getting out & about?
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Every week our 'Driving Force' service helps local people make journeys they might otherwise struggle with.



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GET IN CONTACT
For more information please contact Jen at:

Harrogate Easier Living Project
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helpahadca.org.uk
www.helpharrogate.org.uk



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COFFEE MORNING

ST JOHN'S CHURCH HALL

SATURDAY 9TH OCTOBER

10-12

£1 ENTRY

INCLUDES REFRESHMENTS

FOR HAITI

**CAKES - JAM etc - CARDS- BOOKS -
RAFFLE - TOMBOLA**

YOUTH ACTIVITY



IGNITE



We had a fabulous first night back at Ignite with six new faces joining us. We played games, ate pizza and prayed together

The Message bus is a great experience!

Look out next month for pictures of what we got up to!



SJSL Youth Alpha Course



#AskAtAlpha

And some of us have started the Alpha course



THE GREEN PAGE



During Creationtide we have been looking at the little things that we can all do to reduce damage to the environment. The Green Team have produced a leaflet 'Living More Sustainably' with ideas and websites to help us. (*Available in both churches*).

Good News!

Some of the non-council facilities are becoming available again:

- 'Soft plastic' including biscuit wrappers etc can be taken to Skipton Road Coop
- Coppice View dental practice will accept old toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes and interdental sticks
- you can bring domestic batteries and ink cartridges to either church

Leeds Diocesan Eco-Tips

October – Keeping Warm

- Close the curtains when it gets dark to stop heat escaping.
- Get draught-proof to stop losing heat. Professional draught-proofing of windows and doors, and blocking cracks in floors and skirting boards can cost around £200, but can save around £25 a year on energy bills. DIY draught-proofing can be much cheaper. Installing a chimney draught excluder could save around £15 a year as well.
www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/home-energy-efficiency/energy-saving-quick-wins
- Make sure the hot water tank is insulated with a thick jacket. It will save you lots of money, not to mention reducing your carbon emissions.
- Has your loft got loads of insulation? It's one of the cheapest and easiest ways to save energy and will pay for itself in hardly any time.

NHS CHRISTIAN SUPPORT NETWORK INITIATIVE

A Christian Network to support those working in hospitals has been set up by a member of St George's Church in Leeds.



Karen Flood, a Consultant Vascular Interventional Radiologist for the Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, set up the network as a way of uniting both medical and non-medical Christian staff across the trust.

Around a hundred are now signed up to the network in Leeds, which includes a WhatsApp group where contact can be made and prayer requests can be shared. A meeting every Tuesday lunchtime also takes place, where members meet for prayer and a Bible Study.

Karen is now looking to connect with those working in other local NHS trusts (including Harrogate) to ask whether they'd be interested in helping to set up a Christian Network with her.

If this is an initiative you feel you could be part of, Karen can be contacted at karen.flood2@nhs.net More information is available on the Leeds Diocesan website:

<https://www.leeds.anglican.org/news/christian-network-supports-nhs->

APOLOGIES TO SOPHIE



We missed Sophie's picture from the Rainbows' report last month.

Congratulations Sophie on gaining your Silver award.

HARVEST



Celebrations at St John's on 3rd October and St Luke's on 10th October

In thanks for God's bounty you are invited to join the celebrations, and to donate dry goods which will be shared between the Homeless Hostel and Resurrected Bites. The Flower Club will be decorating St John's Church on Saturday 2nd Potential members are welcome to come along and join them.

PEOPLE

BAPTISMS / BLESSINGS & THANKSGIVINGS

*Gabriel John Cummings
Sophie Canifton Talbot
Bobby Craig Thompson*



WEDDINGS

Congratulations to those recently married:

*Christopher Andrew Saxton
and Jemma Patricia Kelly*



FUNERALS/ MEMORIALS

*We extend our sympathy to the families of those
who have recently died:*

Paul Tennyson



SUNDAY 10th OCTOBER

is Copy Date for
NOVEMBER 2021 Focus

Items for inclusion to:

SJSLFocus@gmail.com

or Editor, 6 Old Trough Way,

HG1 3DE

or leave them in the drawer at the
back of St John's Church

St John's & St Luke's CHURCH OFFICE OPENING HOURS

MONDAY to WEDNESDAY

9.30am to 1.00pm

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- Personal care

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OCTOBER'S CALENDAR

St John's 10.30 services will be on Facebook each Sunday

<https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsandstlukes>

NB Services in the churches may change according to guidelines

Those who attend should wear masks when moving around and singing unless exempt

No need to book a place now - everyone is welcome.

And we are serving tea and coffee after the 10.30 services!

Friday 1 st	3.00pm	Wedding (SJ)
Sunday 3rd	9.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	All Age Harvest Service (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SL)
	6-7.15pm	Ignite 1 (Year 7-9 Youth Group) (SL)
	7.30-8.45pm	Ignite 2 (Year 10+ Youth Group) (SL)
Monday 4 ^h	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer
Tuesday 5 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	7.00pm	Kintsugi Hope (SL)
	7-8.30pm	Youth Alpha (SJ)
Wednesday 6 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
	4-5.00pm	4twelve (Year 7-13 Youth Group) (Bo Grove Café)
Thursday 7 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	9.30-11.00am	Little Fishes Parent/Toddler Group (SL)
	1-3.00pm	Wellbeing Café (SL)
	6.30-7.15pm	Evening Surgery in Church (SJ)
Friday 8 th	6.45-7.45pm	Choir Practice (SJ)
Saturday 9 th	10am-12noon	Coffee Morning (SJ Hall)
Sunday 10th	9.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	All Age Harvest Parade Service (SL)
	12.15pm	Baptisms (SJ)
	6-7.15pm	Ignite 1 (Year 7-9 Youth Group) (SL)
	7.30-8.45pm	Ignite 2 (Year 10+ Youth Group) (SL)
Monday 11 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Tuesday 12 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	7.00pm	Kintsugi Hope (SL)
	7-8.30pm	Youth Alpha (SJ)
Wednesday 13 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)

Wednesday 13 th (Continued)	10.30am	Thirst – Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
	12.15pm	Community Lunch at Bilton Community Centre
	4-5.00pm	4twelve (Year 7-13 Youth Group) (Bo Grove Café)
Thursday 14 th	7.30pm	Finance & Buildings Committee Meeting (SJ)
	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	9.30-11.00am	Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group) (SL)
	1-3.00pm	Wellbeing Café (SL)
Friday 15 th	6.30-7.15pm	Evening Surgery in Church (SJ)
	6.45-7.45pm	Choir Practice (SJ)
Sunday 17th	4.00pm	Youth Weekend at Scargill House
	9.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Morning Worship (SJ)
	10.30am	Morning Worship (SL)
Monday 18 th	4.00pm	Café Church (SL)
	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Tuesday 19 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	7.00pm	Kintsugi Hope (SL)
	7-8.30pm	Youth Alpha (SJ)
Wednesday 20 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Thirst – Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
	4-5.00pm	4twelve (Year 7-13 Youth Group) (Bo Grove Café)
Thursday 21 st	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	9.30-11.00am	Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group) (SL)
	1-3.00pm	Wellbeing Café (SL)
	5.30pm	Wedding Blessing Rehearsal (SJ)
	6.30-7.15pm	Evening Surgery in Church
Friday 22 nd	6.45-7.45pm	Choir Practice (SJ)
Saturday 23 rd	4.00pm	Wedding Blessing (SJ)
Sunday 24th	9.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	All Age Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	All Age Morning Worship (SL)
Monday 25 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Tuesday 26 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	7-8.30pm	Youth Alpha (SJ)
	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Wednesday 27 th	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Thirst – Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Thursday 28 th	1-3.00pm	Wellbeing Café (SL)
	6.30-7.15pm	Evening Surgery in Church (SJ)
	9.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
Sunday 31st	10.30am	Joint All Age Morning Worship (SJ)
		Followed by outdoor act of worship

Sunday 31st	3.30pm	Service of Lament and Remembering (SJ)
<u>NOVEMBER</u>		
Monday 1 st	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Tuesday 2 nd	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	7-8.30pm	Youth Alpha (SJ)
Wednesday 3 rd	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Thirst – Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
	4-5.00pm	4twelve (Year 7-13 Youth Group) (Bo Grove Café)
	7.30-9pm	Living in Love and Faith (SJ)
Thursday 4 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	9.30-11.00am	Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group) (SL)
	1-3.00pm	Wellbeing Café (SL)
	6.30-7.15pm	Evening Surgery in Church
Friday 5 th	6.45-7.45pm	Choir Practice (SJ)

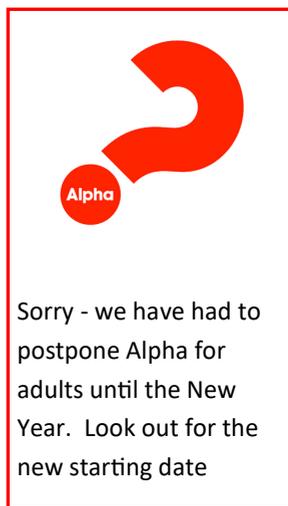
LOOKING AHEAD

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Saturday 13th November	10am-12noon	Coffee Morning (SJ)
Sunday 28th November	6pm	Advent Carols (SJ)
Saturday 11th December	10am-12noon	Coffee Morning (SJ)
Saturday 11th December	4pm	Christingle (SL)
Sunday 12th December	4pm	Christingle (SJ)
Sunday 12th December	5.30pm	Christingle (SJ)
Sunday 19th December	6.30pm	Carol Service (SJ)



Starts Wednesday
3rd November at St John's



ST JOHN'S AND ST LUKE'S TOGETHER WHO'S WHO

Parish Office Phone No: 01423 565129

Parish Office email: church@stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk

For parish information including services and events

visit Parish Website: www.stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk

www.facebook.com/groups/stjohnsandstlukes.harrogate

www.facebook.com/stjohnsandstlukes - for livestreaming

The Ministry Team

Simon Dowson—Team Rector

Tel 01423 561030

simon.dowson@leeds.anglican.org

Team Vicar

Vacant

Laura Martin—Curate

Tel 07973 890766

laura.martin@leeds.anglican.org

**Emma James—Young People's
Worker**

Tel 07803 586566

YouthWork@stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk

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Mr Nigel Thompson

janeandnige1962@hotmail.co.uk

Mrs Jane Reichert

janereichert@hotmail.com

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pafenton10@gmail.com

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jean_jarvis@hotmail.co.uk

Editorial Team

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**Harrogate Strathspey and Reel Club
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St John's Church Hall and St Luke's Church

can be hired for single occasions or for regular events.

Contact the Church Office for more information.

See page 19 for contact details

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