

The Good Shepherd Church
Park Road Loughborough
September Focus 2016

Please see the reverse for Services, meetings and other events.

Having a background in education, September always bring to mind new – new classes, new terms, new staff, new students, new routines. So as I write this Newsletter I wonder what is going to be new for you this September. Maybe you have some new routine to focus on, maybe you are going into a new class at school, maybe you are starting a new job, or a new phase of life – whichever of these it might be, how do you feel about it? We are all affected by in change in some way, some of us just don't like it, some relish it, and some just plough their way through until things feel familiar again.

One of the things that will be new in September is our new Communion Liturgy book. These books will bring us the opportunity for more variety in our worship and a chance to discover afresh the amazing gift that God gives us in sharing Holy Communion together. At first they might seem a bit daunting, just like any other new things, but I am sure that we will soon get used to them and wonder how we ever managed without!

Another new thing during September will be more opportunities to pray. On one of the boards in the Vestibule will be a display giving us opportunity to pray for all the streets in our Parish over the course of a year. And as part of our ministry to our local schools we are going to develop a 'Pray:Bake:Read' Scheme. This will give us opportunity to pray for the staff and students and all the families involved in our local primary schools at first, but then also bake cake for the Staff room each month and eventually go into school and help children with their reading. The praying we can all do; the baking – well I know there are lots of good bakers amongst you; and helping with reading is for later and not everyone will be able to do that. But let's get behind our schools in prayer first, a new initiative to enhance our care for our Parish. I also hope that towards the end of September we will have begun a short course on Personal Prayer leading to another on Intercession in Church, watch out for notices about these opportunities for us to learn new things and refresh our practice. Chat to me if you'd like to know more about all these things.

For Rachel Coupe, our Children and Families' Worker, September heralds the start of some new work in other Churches around the area. We want to say a big THANK YOU to Rachel for all the help and support she has given to The Good Shepherd and many folk in the Parish over the last few years. Sunday September 4th will be Rachel's last Sunday with us and the service that day will focus on the work of the Holiday Club and look at the greatest commandment that Jesus gave: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and love your neighbour as yourself. Following the service that day there will be a whole Church Family PICNIC at Beacon Park – unless the weather is bad when other arrangements will be made. So maybe this is the first new thing that you do in September, come and join in the Picnic – everyone will have a great time I am sure.

Happy new things!! *Sue*

For Further Information please contact our Vicar

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September 2016 News, Views and Calendar

Church Services in September Every Sunday Morning

8am

Holy Communion Traditional Prayer Book
(BCP)

10am Services

Sept 4th Morning Worship
Sept 11th Holy Communion & Sunday Club
Sept 18th Holy Communion & Sunday Club
Sept 25th Morning Worship

Sunday Prayer Meeting

September 11th 6pm.

Every Wednesday Morning 9.30am

Holy Communion (said)

Battle of Britain Service. 6pm September 18th.



Stage Group Pantomime

Rehearsals for the Stage Group Panto have started and tickets are on sale, and as always sell very quickly. Dates are 8th - 10th December 7.30 with a matinee on the Saturday afternoon. Speak to Graham for ticket information.



Harvest

The Harvest Service this year will be on October 9th. More details will be available in next month's Focus regarding opening times for the Church on the Saturday for flowers and produce to be brought along. After the Service we are going to have a Harvest Lunch. This will be in the style of a ploughman's, which is what the farm workers would know doubt have eaten in the fields as a celebration for getting the harvest in safely. A list will be available later this month for names to assist with catering

Home Groups

Thursday Ladies' study group

2-3.30pm Please contact Jackie for details 01509 212207. New members Welcome.

Tuesday Group 8pm (1st & 3rd Tuesdays)

8 Freesia Close.



Christian Aid lunch

The August lunch at The Good Shepherd was well attended and a collection for Christian Aid raised £ 323.50. Thank you to Joan Cheetham who coordinated the lunch, and to all those who helped her.

The next lunch is on Sept. 25th at St Mary's Nanpantan

Football

Do you have children who would like to play. If so see Ed about joining Emmanuel Football Club.



**The next
Messy Church
will be on 8th
October when we
will be focussing on
Harvest**

Teen's Club 7.15pm
Meets every Monday

**Stage Group
Rehearsals every
Wednesday 7.30pm**

Toddler Group
Meets every Friday
Morning 10am -
11.30am.

Wednesday Friendly meets at 2.30pm

September 7th
September 14th
September 21st NO
MEETING
September 28th

The group resume for the autumn with their new programme. The afternoon commences with a short period of worship followed by a speaker or social event. Tea/coffee and biscuits end the afternoon with a chance for a chat and a catch up. If you have a free afternoon and would like to fill the gap please come along. Everyone is welcome.

Church Family Picnic September 4th

Please see the details in the letter from Sue to us all this month on the front page. This will be a day of thanks and celebration as we also say goodbye at the 10am service to Rachel Coupe who has been our children and families worker for the last few years. We wish Rachel well in her work with other Churches into the future.