UNITY UPDATE

JULY 2017

The Monthly Newsletter from the Whitstable Team Ministry

Tales of the unexpected



Steve Charman writes:

The unpredictable is part of life and the human experience. Very often we fear it, those things which are out of our control and foresight – we find ourselves trying to control the uncontrollable. And yet we love stories which are anything but predictable, that twist and turn in surprising ways. Here are a few examples of when the unexpected has caught many of us unaware and in surprise of the outcome...

I am sure you remember when the back pages became front page news last year when Leicester City (my home town!) won the Premier League. The whole team cost about the same as one player from some of the 'top' clubs and the figures speak for themselves. Many are calling it the ultimate football fairytale and in beating odds of 5000:1 this genuine David and Goliath moment has been celebrated far beyond the city limits of Leicester.

Do you also remember when the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) launched a competition to name its new £200

million boat, I doubt few could have guessed the eventual winner would be Boaty McBoatface. Who could have imagined the possibility of MPs discussing Boaty McBoatface at Westminster?

Last month, millions of us voted in the general election. As we have found out with several recent elections, when the public have their say, there is always a few surprises in store.

The story of God at work in His world is full of the unexpected to us. From the fall in the garden to the childlessness of Abraham and Sarah. From slavery to the desert through the sea to the Promised Land. From the baby in a stable to the king who lived and died for his kingdom. A kingdom which is growing and groaning for its king to return.

The story of God redeeming His people and creation is still unfolding. Sometimes the odds look stacked against us and there are many surprises still to come.

At this point in the story, in the midst of unpredictability, we are called to keep the faith, to trust in Him who has already told us the final twist in the tale.

In Lamentations 3:25a we read "The Lord is good to those who wait hopefully and expectantly for Him, to those who seek Him" and in Hebrews we read "Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen"

God is still here, in the unexpected, and we must ensure we seek and trust in Him.

ALL SAINTS



Church Street Revd Simon Tillotson 01227 272308

Regular Sunday Services:

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 10 00am Sung Eucharist with Family Communion on 2nd Sunday 6.30pm Choral Evensong (last Sunday)

Regular Weekday Service:

Thursdays 10.00am - Eucharist with healing prayer

ST PETERS



Sydenham Street **Revd Simon Tillotson** 01227 272308

Regular Sunday Services:

9:30am Sunday School, Church House 10.45am Sung Eucharist

6.30pm Sung Evensong. (Benediction with anointing and laying-on of

hands with prayer for healing on 1st Sunday of the month).

Regular Weekday Service:

Tuesday 10am Said Eucharist. Wednesday Quiet Hour 1pm - 2pm.

ST ALPHEGE, SEASALTER



Faversham Road Revd Canon Steve Conevs 01227 276795

Regular Sunday Services:

8.45am Holy Communion

In Seasalter Christian Centre

10.10am Lighthouse (short all-age

service)

In Seasalter Christian Centre

11.00am All Age Worship

In Seasalter Christian Centre

11.15am Holy Communion (BCP) 1st Sun

In Old Church, Church Lane

Regular Weekday Services:

Tue 9.15am Morning Prayer Wed 9.15am Holy Communion Morning Prayer Fri 9.15am All in the Old Church

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST



10.30am

Swalecliffe Court Drive Revd David Vannerley 07510 838123

Regular Sunday Services:

9.00am Holy Communion - CW Order 2 (3rd Sun)

10.30am Parish Eucharist

(Not 3rd Sun)

Morning Praise in Church Centre

(3rd Sun) 4.00pm

Café Church - Church Centre

(1st Sun) 6.30pm **Evening Prayer**

(1st & 3rd Suns)

Village Praise in St John the 6.30pm

Baptist Church Centre

(2nd Sun)

Village Praise - Chestfield WI 6.30pm (4th Sun) (3rd in December)

Joint worship with Swalecliffe 6:30pm Free Church (5th Sun)

Regular Weekday Services:

The Eucharist is celebrated each Wednesday at 10.00am in the Church Centre (Healing Ministry 1st)

ST ALPHEGE, WHITSTABLE



High Street Revd Rachel Webbley 01227 273329

Regular Sunday Services:

8 00am Holy Communion (BCP) Family Communion & Junior 9.30am Church (Family Service 3rd Sun) Laying on of hands for healing in chapel afterwards on 1st Sunday

4.30pm Evensong (1st Sun)

Regular Weekday Service:

Wed 10.00am Holy Communion

YOUTH SERVICE



Contact **Georgina Hedley-Smith** georgina@stalphegeseasalter.org

Regular Sunday Services:

6.30pm 'Y' Youth Service Seasalter Christian Centre. All Saints
Pet Blessing service
(In its 11th year)
Sunday 9th July 10:00am

All Saints Vicarage Garden Please bring a chair

...and of course your pet if you have one!



Mothers' North Christian care for families

All are welcome at our meetings, you do not have to be a member, and lifts are always available.
Tel. Margaret Lakin-Hall (leader)
01227 262471.

July 4th at 10.00am

A talk by Wendy Bailey on American Independence Day at Seasalter Christian Centre

20th July at 2.30pm

Rosemary's Garden Party at 74 Virginia Road. Tea, cakes and Raffle contributions required.

26th July at 10.00am

Corporate Communion at St. Alphege Church, Whitstable.

27th **July at 12noon** Cathedral Prayer time.

No Meetings are scheduled for August.

The following activities take place every week:

St Alphege Seasalter

Thursdays at 10.30 am: Open Door Fridays at 6:15pm: Prayerpoint

Fridays at 8:00pm (30 minutes). Silent Prayer of the Heart

All Saints

Mondays at 2:00pm: CAMEO (Come and meet each other) Thursdays at 11:00am: Film Club

Team Prayer:

Mondays at 5.00pm at St John's



St Peter's



Saturday, July 8th 9.30am to 12 noon Church House, Cromwell Road

Coffee, Cakes and Good Company each week!

The St Alphege Cafe is held in the main church foyer **every Tuesday and Thursday morning from 9:30 onwards**. We operate a very simply cafe with Coffee, Tea and Cakes. Everyone is welcome for a quick drink or you can stay as long as you like and enjoy some pleasant company and good conversation with your fellow Cafe goers.



Join us this summers Ages 5-11 10am-12·30pm £3 per child per day (£9 max per family)

For a booking form, contact Jane Myhill at jane.myhill@btinternet.com or by ringing 01227 276923 (Seasalter Christian Centre)

Thursday 27th & Friday 28th July

St John's Methodist Church, Argyle Road

Tues 15th, Wed 16th & Fri 18th August

Seasalter Christian Centre, Faversham Road

Monday 21st & Tuesday 22nd August

St John's Swalecliffe, St John's Road

Wednesday 30th & Thursday 31st August

All Saints Church Hall, Church Road



Summer Holiday Clubs

UNITY UPDATE

Editor: Steve Charman unityupdate@thecharmans.net Please email if you would like to be sent a PDF version of Unity Update