### Prayer at the Heart

Please pray for:

#### Immediate needs 2 - 4 weeks



#### Long term needs - up to 3 months

Melissa Clackett, whose health is deteriorating please pray for it to improve and for Isaac with chronic lung disease and underlying health issues, but (as Melissa says) he is a strong little fighter. Daniel Hampton with Long Covid. Barry (Paula's brother-in-law). Sheila Pearse. Joan Moss. Dennis Spinner, please pray for him to get strong and stay free from illness. Lise Jennings, for relief from pain.

#### **Prayer Needs**

Please contact: Carol Judge 277752; or David and Lynda Kemp 272470

We also have a Prayer Requests page on Facebook, please let us know if you would like your prayer needs to be posted there.

#### Message from Lise

Sunday School and Crèche will continue through the summer with the exception of 25th July and 29th August, however activities will still be provided for children who come to the service.

## Welcome to St Alphege, Seasalter

## 18 July 2021

Readings: Acts 2: 42-47; John 13: 34-35 7<sup>th</sup> after Trinity

### St Alphege Seasalter Values, Week 3

Our Sunday theme is the third of our 7 Values this week, Creating Community

A ll involved - Everyone playing their part

B earing witness - Telling the Christian story

C reating community - Loving and belonging

This week we explore what it means to 'Create Community' - what kind of community are we called to be? What can we learn from Jesus and from the early church about this?

How do we become a community that is open to transformation by the Holy Spirit?

#### After July 19<sup>th</sup> – What will happen in Church? (From Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>)

The DCC met on Tuesday 6 July to discuss the lifting of restrictions. Whilst the legal requirements for face coverings and social distancing are being lifted, we have made some decisions about some measures we feel still need to be in place for the following reasons:

• Government advice (Chris Whitty, Chief Medical Officer) is that masks are worn indoors where there are crowds/large groups and social distancing is difficult. Masks are shown to be effective in preventing transmission of Covid-19 to others – they are worn mainly for the benefit and protection of others, not the wearer.

• Cases of Covid-19 are rising quite rapidly at the moment with a variant that is more easily transmitted.

• There is a cohort still waiting for their second vaccine

We are still have a duty of care to mitigate risk to the people who use our building, and Covid-19 still presents a risk.

Bearing these things in mind, we have agreed the following changes:

We will continue with the two identical services for now at 9 and 10.30. We will review this for after the Summer.

We will stop the booking system, but ask people who come to services to sign in on arrival so it's possible to trace if there were to be an outbreak. If this begins to become difficult to manage or seems unsafe, we may reinstate the booking system.

The chairs will move closer together again, people will be able to move about the auditorium before and after the service and chat with one another (or in the garden/car park). We will have the doors open so bring an extra layer.

We will all be able to sing!

In order to enable these changes as safely as possible, <u>we will still require</u> <u>everyone to continue to wear a face covering in the building (unless</u> <u>exempt from doing so).</u>

Holy Communion will continue with bread only for a while yet.

We will continue the livestream for those who are not yet ready to return to gathered worship.

When we share The Peace, it will be without physical contact for the time being (unless same household/bubble).

We are keeping refreshments on pause for the time being.

We will review this in an ongoing way.

Thank you for playing your part in keeping others safe.

# Bookings open from Monday 12 July for 'Getting to grips with the Bible'

Four Saturday afternoons in September, 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th from 2-4.30 pm at the Christian Centre.

BOOK VIA BECKY IN THE OFFICE, (places limited to 30) 01227 276923 9-11 Monday to Friday. Places must be confirmed by Becky.



Cost: £5 per person for the whole course, to cover materials.

We are going to be running a 'Reading the Bible with Confidence' course in September to look at some tools and skills that will help you get the most out of your Bible reading.

It's for anyone – whether you have read your Bible inside out and upside down, or whether you find it a difficult and perplexing thing to get into.

The Bible is a rich and wonderful gift to us, the story of God's journey with and love for humanity, a source of instruction, comfort and of wisdom that can lead us into deeper relationship with God and one another, and to transformed lives in Christ.

But it's not always an easy thing to read. Made up of 66 books written at different times and of different writing types and styles, conveying different messages to particular audiences at the time of writing. How do we understand and interpret what we are reading? How do we know what it's saying to us today? How do we make sure we don't abuse it by taking things out of context?

We want St Alphege Seasalter to be a place where we grow and learn together about faith and where we can use the tools and gifts we've been given to encourage each other and flourish. When it comes to reading and interpreting the Bible we won't always agree on everything – but we will grow if we share our viewpoints and our thinking safely with one another and learn from our different perspectives.



#### Something to Share?

If you would like to contribute to these church notices; or subscribe to the (electronic) mailing list do please get in touch with me.

Please be aware when supplying contact information, this notice sheet is circulated physically and digitally via our website, social media and email.

The deadline for the following Sunday is midnight on Tuesday. *Paula. Email:* deaneves@msn.com



## ST ALPHEGE SEASALTER CHILDREN'S SUMMER ACTIVITIES

### **5TH AUGUST**

FAMILY PICNIC ON THE BEACH! Opposite Waldens in Seasalter, Bring Your Own Picnic! 11 AM - 1:30 PM

# 12TH AUGUST

COMMUNITY WARDROBE @ SCC PRESCHOOL, PRIMARY AND SOME Secondary Uniform Available For Whitstable Schools. 10 AM - 12:30 PM

### **18TH AUGUST**

SPARKLERS SUMMER CATCHUP BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC! @ SWALECLIFF PARK, PLOUGH LANE 11:30 AM - 1 PM

PARENTS ARE TO STAY WITH THEIR CHILDREN AT THESE EVENTS FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT ANDREW.PRICE@STALPHEGESEASALTER.ORG CRECHE AND SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL CONTINUE (EXCLUDING 25TH JULY & 29TH AUGUST, ACTIVITIES WILL BE AVAILABLE)



### **Cook Along in May**

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the Cook Along project during May half term. Whether you donated, planned, shopped, packed, prayed or distributed we are very grateful for your help as Cook Along would not run without you!

Twenty families took part this time and up to 3 meals were provided for each family, particular favourites this time around were gammon with a cheese and broccoli bake and meatballs as well as the gingerbread man kits aimed at the children.

We are now planning for the long summer holidays which present some new challenges for us so if you'd like to get involved please do contact us, we'd love to hear from you. We are especially looking for new recipe ideas, main meals and desserts so please let us know your favourite meals bearing in mind they need to be healthy'ish' and affordable for people on low incomes.

If you would like to contribute a recipe, make a donation or get involved please contact <u>treasurer@stalphegeseasalter.org</u>

Whitstable Team Eco Forum

Open to all



Whitstable Churches Eco Forum In person at All Saints Church yard, Whitstable @21st of July 2021, 7:30pm

Please join us in person for the second Whitstable Churches Eco Forum. It will be held, socially distanced at All Saints Church yard and there will be refreshments.

There will be time to discuss the upcoming September Creationtide season for the team churches, share our Eco Journeys and plan environmental activities moving forward.

We look forward to you joining us!

# WHEN THE FINISH WAS ONLY THE START AND THE END ONLY THE BEGINNING!!

The delayed Euro 20 Football Competition is finally over and the Wimbledon Tennis fortnight is done and dusted for another year. By Sunday evening, 18 July, we will know who has won the 149<sup>th</sup> British Open Golf Championship, this year being played for the 15<sup>th</sup> time at Sandwich. At some point we can say of so many tings that they have or will come to an end, like the COVID restrictions or a spell of fine summer weather and of course our own earthly life or that of our loved ones ... We likewise say of so many things 'It is finished' having completed a painting, a garden or house project and such things as a course of treatment at the doctor's or the dentist. We can also finish cooking a meal, washing up, cleaning the house or car, the list is almost endless.

The greatest cry or shout of 'IT IS FINISHED' ever, reverberated around a hillside outside Jerusalem just over 2000 years' ago from the lips of Jesus, his final words as he died on the cross. Although Matthew, Mark and Luke all tell us Jesus gave a great shout before he died, only John tells us what Jesus actually said because he was right there, close to the cross at the time. 'It is finished,' how could he ever forget those words? I have no doubt that many years' later when John came to write his Gospel, that in his mind he re-lived everything that happened that day, that in his mind he could not only see Jesus as He suffered and died but ringing in his head were the things Jesus said, not least that shout of triumph. Yes it was a shout of triumph not of defeat. There was no 'It is finished, that's the end' about it but a shout of joy, a shout of victory.

No doubt many who witnessed Jesus dying on the cross that day thought the words 'It is finished' were the final words of a defeated and beaten man. In New Testament Greek there is just one word for 'It is finished' in English and it literally means 'Paid in full' - the same word that was stamped on a paid invoice. When everyone was expecting a dying gasp, Jesus gave a shout of triumph. 'I've paid the price, the full price for all time for the sins of the world.' To continue that quote by Whitney T Kuniholm, 'Death no longer has the final say. The kingdom of darkness is defeated. I've completed my mission.' All those meanings enshrined in the words 'IT IS FINISHED'.

#### THE PRICE IS PAID

The price is paid: come let us enter in to all that Jesus died to make our own. For every sin more than enough He gave, And bought our freedom from each guilty stain.

The price is paid: see Satan flee away - for Jesus crucified, destroys his power. No more to pay! Let accusation cease: in Christ there is No condemnation now!

The price is paid: and by that scourging cruel, He took our sicknesses As if His own. And by His wounds, His body broken there, His healing touch may now by faith be known.

The price is paid: 'Worthy the Lamb' we cry - eternity shall never Cease His praise. The Church of Christ Shall rule upon the earth: In Jesus' name we have authority!

Chorus The price is paid Alleluia Amazing grace so strong and sure And so with all my heart My life in every part I live to thank You for the price You paid



CCLI Song # 121445

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### **Message from Pat**

Pat Martin would like to thank everyone for the amazing amount of packing boxes received. No more are needed at present. Thank you all.