PARISH OF SOUTHMINSTER MAGAZINE OF THE CHURCH OF ST LEONARD



and also for Steeple Parish



The Church of St Lawrence & All Saints



JUNE 2023

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God (Romans 8:14).

3	Curate's Reflection Rev'd Jacqui King			
5	Holiday Club notice : "Going Bananas"			
6	Failure Brenda Sheppard			
7	Christian Aid Week			
8	News from the Pillingers			
9	The Demise of the Printing Industry (as I knew it) Harry Payne			
12	Services at St. Leonard's during June			
14	Steeple Church News Steeple Church News			
15	Some old quotations			
16	Chatterbox Information and requestBrenda Sheppard			
	St Leonard's Together Apart Facebook Group			
17	Southminster Memorial Hall programme.			
	Dengie Hundred Ladies' Group information			
18 19	Getting on Together Chris Martin Diocesan information about World Refugee Day			
20	Rotas (Paul Lucas) and Henry Club Update from Brenda Sheppard.			
21	Coronavirus details - even though restrictions have been lifted Notice about how to contribute offerings to our two churches			
22	Southminster Flower Show			
	Prayer Ministry after church services & Prayer for Southminster			
23	Who's Who at St Leonard's Church To cover our costs we			
24	Who are we? have to charge for this			

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

Articles for the July magazine should be with Kath Dunstan by, at the latest, **Sunday 18th June** New contributors are welcome. To cover our costs we have to charge for this magazine. This is now **80p per issue** or £3 for Every 4 months paid in advance. There may be changes ahead, so we have removed the annual subscription.

Curate's Reflection: Children

Children have not historically played a major role in coronation ceremonies; Charles was an onlooker during his mother's celebration. However, our new King changed the festivities into a more inclusive family affair. We saw, from the very beginning of the coronation service, children attending to the King's robes and a young chorister was the first to address the King inside Westminster Abbey. He said, "Your Majesty, as children of the Kingdom of God we welcome you in the name of the King of Kings." The King replied, "In His name and after His example, I come not to be served but to serve." The importance of children, valuing them and their contributions was evident by their significant role throughout the ceremony and coronation festivities.

The Church of England also emphasises the importance of children in its vision and strategy for the 2020s¹ which is, 'to be a Church that is younger and more diverse,' (the aim is to double the number of children and young active disciples by the 2030s). Children, young people and schools are the future of the Church, they are at the very heart of the matter. A young person can change the world for good just as powerfully as any grown-up. The Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg is a good example of the power that a young person's voice can have.

Children can enjoy and take part in worship, prayer and mission activities just as enthusiastically as any adult. Christians advocate that children are a gift from God and are to be loved, discipled and cared for, yet Christians are all described as, 'children of God.' How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God (1 John 3:1a). So, this means that we are all, young and old regardless of our age, considered to be God's children and as His children we need love, affection, discipleship and guidance. We need teachers, mentors, role-models, people who can provide for our spiritual needs, those who encourage, inspire and demonstrate how their faith is central, how it underpins their heart to serve God.

Last month, I had the privilege of working with a head teacher and other staff at a primary school. Gosh the energy, patience, adaptability and commitment to their vocation to teach children was something to behold. I witnessed the youngest children being taught about Christian values; 5-year-olds understood that we commit to being kind, honest, respectful and to loving one another. I was astonished by how much another class knew about our oceans and the journey that plastics can make and the actions we need to take to make positive changes to our environment - to care for God's creation. I witnessed how the older children handled with grace the unfamiliar exam conditions and the rigorous SATS tests. Thankfully, gone are the days when teachers oppressed and controlled like we see portrayed in the film Matilda. In our schools the focus is on a freedom to grow, nurturing children to be themselves so they recognise their skills and particular attributes that contribute to the life of their class, their school and the wider world. I'm not saying everything is perfect when it comes to children and learning, there are always issues and challenges in all walks of life, but our schools, nurseries and our own Little Lions toddler group all play a huge role in growing, nurturing and valuing children. As Nelson Mandela is quoted as saying, 'there can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children.'

We may have moved on from being children in the classroom, but Jesus reminds us that we must not lose our childlike ways or overlook the importance of children. Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 18:3). During the coronation service we witnessed the King kissing the Bible to show: his loyalty and devoted love of God's values; the power that God's word has in his life; and his commitment to embody the Christian faith and God's teaching. We can choose to do the same; to be shaped and moulded as children of God, to lay down negative things we may have experienced in our younger lives and trust God with what the future holds. Like King Charles III we can be led by the Spirit of God and be obedient to follow his teaching and ways. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God (Romans 8:14).

Yours in His service, lacqui

1. The Church of England, Vision and Strategy, *A vision and strategy for the Church of England in the 2020s*, https://www.churchofengland.org/about/vision-and-strategy.

Free Holiday Club 2023

GO BANANAS

at St.Leonard's Church Southminster

Tuesday 22nd August to Thursday 24th August

Celebration Service on Sunday 27th August followed by Family Barbecue

Open to Primary age children residents of Southminster and Steeple and the schools of Southminster & St. Mary's Burnham

Registration and booking forms **from Tuesday 30th May** -Available from - school, church and online Places limited - book early to save disappointment. For more information contact Jenny

Failure

Brenda Sheppard

During Lent I bought a book by the Rt Revd Dr Emma Ineson called "Failure" the book was endorsed by Archbishop Justin Welby as the Lent book for 2023. He calls it "A superb book on failure" The book looks at what Jesus said about sin, mistakes and generally messing stuff up!

I have to admit I was a bit put off by the title as failure is a very broad topic and quite a negative word. The Bible tells us that "All have sinned and fallen short of the Glory of God"



and failure is an inevitable part of human life and we are all going to mess things up at some time. Emma says, quite rightly, that often failure presents an opportunity to learn and do things differently, so we shouldn't be embarrassed by our failures but hope to learn from

them and if appropriate try again.

I'm sure most inventors encountered failures but persevered. Thomas Edison, I have read, made 1,000 unsuccessful attempts at inventing the light bulb before he gained success; he was told by his teachers that he was too stupid to learn anything. Walt Disney was fired by a newspaper editor and was told he lacked imagination and had no good ideas but look what happened! He certainly proved the editor wrong. I, too, have had failures in my life. I remember when I failed my driving test for the third time, I felt I just couldn't try again but gave it one more go and success! I have to admit I am glad, with hindsight, for those failures because I learned from them and hope I am a safer driver because of them.



One thing Emma highlighted was that we don't need to fear failure. If we feel we are doing what is right, especially in our work for the Lord, then we should persevere and ask for help from others if needed. Sometimes if we fail at something, it may not have been the right thing for us but at least we tried.

I read this book through twice as it had so much to digest. I did find some of the content a bit repetitive at times, but there was also some humour to lighten the subject matter. On the whole a very interesting read.



We go to print at the end of Christian Aid Week

so results of how generous people have been in donating towards this cause will be publicised later.

Meanwhile, do pray for the women in Malawi (Esther and Jen) who have worthwhile plans - to make a successful business and to raise enough money (through peas) to send her child to school. Obviously there will be others who will be helped by our donations, so keep praying for them all.

Wyc iffe Bible Trans ators

News from the Pillingers (Steve and Johanna)

We were able to watch the coronation of King Charles III - a beautiful event, full of pageantry and Christian symbolism.

I (Steve) am waiting for the corrected first draft of the Dinka Cam Bible to be finalised by the team in Juba (capital of South Sudan). This has been taking some time, maybe due to practical difficulties resulting from the fighting in Sudan. (South Sudan became an independent country in 2011.)

It's wonderful that I (Johanna) can now sit at my laptop again after many months of post-concussion symptoms. Thank you to all who prayed.

Johanna's having first attempts at watercolour. The aim is to eventually combine her painting and card-making skills with quotations from various translations in Southern Africa, to produce something creative again!

Back home, winter is approaching. The Gathering Community Church has been very supportive of Johanna during her months of struggling with headaches, dizziness and fatigue. We have been blessed by a legacy to Johanna, which enabled us to have a solar back-up system installed to keep us going through the increasing power outages. (Solar panels on the roof, a solar water heater, a gas cooker in the kitchen and an old-fashioned fireplace in the lounge.

In so many ways, you and we together are contributing towards unlocking the Bible through translation for millions of people around the world. Thank you for being part of this wonderful worldwide movement of unlocking God's Word. I recommend David Pawson's book "Unlocking the Bible" to cover this.

The Demise of Printing (As I knew it) Harry Payne

There is a saying 'Time flies when you are enjoying yourself'. Linda and I spent February and the best part of March doing just that in Australia. As a consequence this final part of my article on Printing, which should have appeared in the May magazine, missed last month's Magazine copy date.

The period I was involved in the printing industry, years 1955-2002, was one that saw quite possibly, more changes than the previous five hundred years. After Gutenberg and Caxton, printing became gripped in a developing and growth phase. The relative speed the 'new' printing machines produced the printed sheet did away with the need for the lamentable slow Scribes. As production increased, so costs tumbled, as a consequence of the availability of cheaper pamphlets, books etc, more people began to read. The desire for education and the thirst for information grew.

In the printing industry, Compositors became **the** prime individuals, 'Gentlemen of the Press' was their unofficial title. They were the educated men. They could read, and spell. An essential skill, obviously not everyone possessed it back then, nor today, if the truth be known. Okay, the Printing Machine operator was skilful too, but it was a different kind of skill. He did not need to know how to read to produce a desired or acceptable product.

Even in my day there were good printers and, just printers, they lacked that essential skill. I consider myself fortunate, the printer I was apprenticed to was skilful and, importantly, prepared to pass his skill on to me, providing I met his exacting demands. (These days I guess you might call it bullying.)

As demand for print increased so did the number of printing workshops. The emphasis over the years was to increase market demand and the means to meet that demand. Virtually everyone became a potential user of the printed word. Just think back a few years to see what I mean. Every town had a Printing Works tucked away somewhere, the size of company was irrelevant, each met the need they found. One man as an individual, could make a living. I employed 16 people, very small compared to some book printers, or newspapers that employed hundreds. My people went home at 5pm. Some larger companies worked shifts, outputting vast quantities of print 24 hours per day. This period was quite possibly the heyday of the printing industry. It had to end, things change, it could not last.

Back in the early 1980's a certain Steve Jobs was developing the Apple Macintosh computer. Around the same time Bill Gates was working on a computing system too. Remember this was before Social Media. The affect that computers have had on almost everything is incredible. Ultimately driving down the demand for the printed word. Letterpress printing was slowly being superseded by Offset Lithography as a means of producing many print requirements. Prepress, that is preparation of what you wanted printed, BEFORE it reached the press, soon became the domain of computers. The Apple Mac became the industry standard. By and large the skill of the Compositor disappeared. Everything he was able to do, could be produced faster on a computer. Echo's of the Scribes of old here. Compositor apprentices used to face a long training period, they could be indentured for up to seven years back in the day. Now?

Offset printing had for sometime been challenging Letterpress in all areas of print. Huge development steps speeded up that process. In addition, Copying too, began to make inroads into markets with the use of inkjet and laser printing. Personnel began to walk away from the printing industry as a long term career. The future 'in Print' now had that ring of uncertainty.

I think back now, to the time, in the late 1950's, when the tutor said to a class full of printing apprentices, me included, 'one day this process will put you all out of work'. At the time he was referring to a black and white copier. He was not far wrong.

As a point of interest, as a print room apprentice I would not have been too far out of my depth in Gutenberg's time. If I were to walk into a printshop today I could well be way out of my depth.

Editor's comment. Harry's experience, which he shared with us, helped us as we worked on producing and printing the Church magazine during the past four decades.

Sunday 4th June 08.00 Holy Communion BCP	TRINITY Sunday			
-	Rev'd Peter/Norman Pratt			
Isaiah 40:12-17,27-end 2 Corinthians 13:11-end Celeb				
Matthew 28:16-end	Celebrant			
Sidesperson	Paul Lucas			
I I.00 FAMILY HOLY COMMUNIO	N			
Leader/President/Preacher Re	ev'd Peter/ Norman Pratt			
Readings as above Pa	uline Siggers			
Intercessions Ka	ath Dunstan			
Prayer Ministry Sylvia A	Adams & Frances Hatfield			
Audio-visuals C	hristine Lucas			
Sidesperson G	Gwyneth Iffland			
Refreshments t.t).a.			
Sunday I I th June	st Sunday after Trinity			
08.00 Holy Communion BCP				
Leader/President/Preacher	Rev'd Ken Dunstan			
Genesis 12:1-9 Romans 4:13-end	l Celebrant			
Matthew 9 : 9-13, 18-26	Celebrant			
Sidesperson	Gordon Baker			

Leaders	Rev'd Jacqui, Jenny Pratt, Karen Flack
Readings & Prayers	Rev'd Jacqui, Jenny & Karen
Audio-visuals	Christine Morgan
Prayer Ministry	Sarah Prendergast & Yvonne Thurbon
Sidesperson	Leon Flack
Refreshments	Sally Culff & Maureen Smith

Sunday 18th June 08.00 Holy Communion		2nd Sunday after Trinity
	President/Preacher	Rev'd Jacqui/Brenda Sheppard
		:1-7 : Romans 5: 1-8 Celebrant
	Matthew 9 : 35 - 10:8	
	Sidesperson	Leon Flack
11.00	Morning Worship	
	Leader/preacher	Rev'd Jacqui/ Brenda Sheppard
	Readings as above	Christine Morgan
	Intercessions	Norman Pratt
	Audio-visuals	Sylvia Adams
	Prayer Ministry	Fiona Begley & Keith Hatfield
	Sidesperson	Kath Dunstan
	Refreshments	Eira Hagger & Frances Hatfield
Sunday 25th June		3rd Sunday after Trinity
08.00	Holy Communion	BCP
	Leader/Preacher	Rev'ds Peter & Jacqui
Genesis 21:8-21; Romans 6: 1b		mans 6: Ib-II Celebrant
	Matthew 10 : 24 - 39	Celebrant
	Sidesperson	Pete Adams
11.00	Morning Worship	
	Leader/Preacher	Rev'ds Peter & Jacqui
	Readings as above	Linda Payne
	Intercessions	, Fiona Begley
	Prayer Ministry	Brenda Sheppard & Christine Lucas
	Audio-Visuals	Christine Morgan
	Sidesperson	Sylvia Adams
	Refreshments	Paul Lucas & Sandra Billinghurst

Steeple Church News

Steeple Church has services every Sunday morning at 9.15am unless otherwise advertised on the church door. We have Morning Prayer on the first Sunday each month, a children's service on the third Sunday and Holy Communion on second and fourth.



www.stleonardsouthminster.org.uk

Please mark your diary with Steeple PCC's summer fundraising events.

On Saturday 29th July, we'll be joining with Althorne and Creeksea churches in organising "**Wheels, Hooves and Paws**" at Elmwood Equestrian, Burnham-on-Crouch. This year there will be both horse competitions and dog shows supporting the historic vehicle displays. Please contact Jean Ingram on 07748 666 066 for general information or John Ward on 01621 773 606 for historic vehicle entries.

Further ahead, on Sunday 20th August, "**Steeple Historic Gathering**" will follow its established format but at a new location. This year we'll be using a meadow at Little Ash Tree Farm, Steeple Road, Mayland by kind permission of Duncan McLaren. Although this event will be further from the centre of Steeple, we hope village organisations and local traders will still regard this as their "Steeple Show". Perhaps being closer to Mayland, with its larger population, may increase the number of visitors. For more information, please contact Peter Marshall or Teresa Julien.

Steeple Church contacts in addition to the Benefice Team:

Rhona Leech, Churchwarden & PCC Secretary,

Teresa Julien, Churchwarden, Peter Marshall, PCC Treasurer & Verger,

Quotations for a month

The Church is called:

to perpetrate acts of kindness on an unsuspecting public; to proclaim Jesus as the unique way to God and to lead men and women into a vibrant relationship with God.

Joel Edwards, former Director of the Evangelical Alliance

"I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen; not only because I see it but because by it I see everything else."

C.S. Lewis

CHATTERBOX: as described opposite....We are an open door to people who like to come along. We also have jigsaws on the go and a Craft table from which we have exhibited some of the amazing items made in the Flower Show. We are hoping in the future to have a computer to use to help people enhance their computer skills. We are a friendly group and would love more people to come and enjoy a warm space and good company. A recent "chair exercise" session proved very popular and it may return again soon. Watch out for details.

On a practical level, if anyone has any Jigsaws they would like to donate or lend to the group we would be very grateful as we get through quite a few in a year!!

Any enquiries to: Norman or: Brenda

The St. Leonard's Together Apart Facebook Group

I prayerfully decided to start the "Together Apart" facebook group at the beginning of the first lockdown and posted on the page at least 6 days of each week. 3 years on lockdowns now seem to be long behind us and the interaction with the group is now minimal so after a lot of thought and prayer it was decided that I would no longer post on this group daily.

The group will remain open and I will occasionally post things that I think may be of interest. Please feel free to post on there too.

Thanks to all those who have interacted over the past three years.

Karen Flack

SOUTHMINSTER MEMORIAL HALL Depending on how the Omicron Virus Regulations are, we hope that the following gatherings will take place.

LUNCH CLUB meets on Mondays.

If you would like any information please phone Dave Christie 07775 758118.



CHATTERBOX

meets on Thursday mornings 10 am-12 noon. Everybody is welcome – come along for a chat, activities if you would like to join them and a cuppa and a biscuit for \pounds 1.00. No entry charge.

There are other groups too. If you have any spare time and would like to volunteer to help us in running this valuable community organisation, please just attend and think about it. It's a way to enjoy village life and make new friends!

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

This will now meet every week on Tuesdays from 10 am - noon at Christ Church, North Street.

DENGIE HUNDRED LADIES GROUP

will meet in the hall on **June 27th**

Speaker: Tabitha Textile Artistry

Competition – Hand-made wall hanging

For further details contact Paula Neall 01621 773243



Keep praying for everyone who has recently lost a loved one, and for others who are in need of healing and general care. Pray for all medical personnel, local and wider afield, and all the regular carers.

GETTING ON TOGETHER

Once more in the news recently we've heard about what seems to be a senseless war – this time in Sudan. Without going into the politics of it, which I can't pretend to know much about anyway but I'm sure each side in the conflict feels there is right in their fight, I can't help but wonder what happened to the art of diplomacy and discussion?

As the war in Ukraine drags on, this time over the usual matter of who owns which piece of land, the senselessness of it all becomes more and more apparent as misery is inflicted on both sides. Of course the desire for power also plays a part; 'twas ever thus.

In the world of politics, doesn't anybody ever ask the question, "What do we have in common and what can we do to support each other?" instead of going in literally with all guns blazing.

Sadly it seems that fighting is inbred in humankind and there will always be somebody to call an enemy: a power-crazy dictator deciding to take on the world who has to be stopped, or a regime causing war and trouble to a neighbouring state. Who knows how to solve this problem?

If we don't want to work in the world of politics, one thing we can do is make sure there are no wars in our own personal little worlds. "Blessed Are The Peacemakers"! It's sometimes easier said than done: friends and families fall out. Really, is it worth it? Perhaps we just need to accept each other the way we are, not as we would wish each other to be. We all have views that maybe differ from others' way of looking at things, and hopefully we can have a healthy discussion without it coming an issue between friends.

I'm glad to be in a country that accepts asylum seekers and refugees so readily. We are lucky to live in a peaceful, pleasant country. How lovely to be equally at peace with our family, neighbours and fellow citizens.

Chris Martin

World Refugee Day - call to commemorate refugees who lost their lives on European borders

The Conference of European Churches, whose current Vice President is Bishop Guli, and the Churches' Commission for Migrants in Europe, are appealing to churches across Europe to commemorate the people who have lost their lives in the Mediterranean, on the days around World Refugee Day on 20 June.

This appeal is made in times when the war in Ukraine rages on. The direct consequences of the Ukraine war continue and will continue to force people to flee. While the displacement from Ukraine is still a terrible reminder of the horror of the war, reception of those fleeing from Ukraine, not least by churches, has set several impressive, good examples. The facilitated entry of Ukrainians into the EU and other countries has shown that borders do not have to be deadly for those who are fleeing.

POSSIBLE ROTA DETAILS: YOUR AVAILABILITY FOR 2 MONTHS

We can worship regularly in church again, but with appropriate safety limitations, so we need to be well-prepared. Please let Paul Lucas know if you are willing to be part of his volunteer team but cannot be available on any of the following dates.

August 2023	6	13	20	27
September 2023	3	10	17	24

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO FULFIL YOUR DUTY YOU SHOULD CHANGE WITH SOMEONE AND INFORM THE WARDENS OF THE ARRANGEMENT.

Henry Club details

First of all I want to say a big thankyou to all the team who help at Henry Club which of course is named after one of our trusty vacuum cleaners!! We meet once a fortnight on a



Friday from 9am – 11am and helpers do as much as they are able. We, as a church, have also been very grateful for the Community Payback people for keeping the grounds of the church clean and tidy. So many ways to be part of a cleaning team inside and out. If you feel you would like to help with the interior cleaning at any time please contact me even if you can only come every now and then it would be great to have you onboard and for you to be comfortable in the task or tasks you would prefer to do.

Brenda Sheppard

CORONAVIRUS 2022

We are pleased that most restrictions have been lifted but we do need to be sensible and continue cautiously during 2023. Any changes will be available on posters & on-line.

To keep aware of what is happening, and to participate on line with services, log into the website https:// www.stleonardsouthminster.org.uk/ and https:// www.facebook.com/groups/ stleonardstogetherapart/

Also, we have a WhatsApp group entitled "Together Apart Our Church". Lots of people are involved in that.

These links have been greatly appreciated by regular Church family members and also by people who have not, to date, attended our church services. In difficult times, like this, we need to 'allow' God to point us in possible new directions and then to respond. **God has a plan with hope for future.**

If you would like specific prayer, please contact the vicar. preferably by email but otherwise on 01621 772300

A notice about our offerings to God.

Many of us use the facility of the offering plate to give our gifts to God. Whether we are attending in person, or not, it is always a good time to think about a standing order to the church so that we are still bringing our gift. Many of us are doing this already – Thank you, but those who may be wondering how they can continue their giving through Standing Order the details of the church bank are here:

Barclays Bank Sort code: **20.54.30** A/c No. **80825107** A/c Name: Southminster Parochial Church Council. **For Steeple use:** Sort code: **20.54.30**

A/c No. **60842494** A/c Name: Steeple Parochial Church Council. Plan for future events

SOUTHMINSTER FLOWER SHOW

at King George V Memorial Ground, Station Road on Saturday 15th July

Dengie Hundred Horticultural Society have produced a detailed list (as usual) of all the areas where people can submit their exhibition items which will be judged on the day. Their marquee will open for public viewing at 2pm The Floral Art Section is always popular.

There will be plenty of tents and stalls providing brilliant information and activities for people of all ages.

Prayer Ministry on Sundays after the 11 am service Please come to the area outside the Chapel if you have a particular need for prayer, (for yourself or someone close to you) where there should be two people available to pray with you.

PRAY	FOR SOUTHMINSTER:	Į
w/b	4 June Central - South	
w/b	II June South-West	
w/b	18 June Central -West	
w/b	25 June North - East	



WHO ARE WE?



Mission Statement

"To be a people offering praise and worship to God and serving him by being the Good News by our words and actions"

Web Site www.stleonardsouthminster.org.uk Contact: vicar@stleonardsouthminster.org.uk

If you wish to contact the Church regarding a Safeguarding issue please contact us by telephone on 07745 688845 or via safeguarding@stleonardsouthminster.org.uk

See pages 12-13 for details during this season.

Weekly notices, covering any changes, will be available to read on the outside church notice-board. SUNDAY SERVICES

8:00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer 1662)

11.00 am Holy Communion or Morning Worship Steeple Services similarly continue at 9.15am

Children and Young people are always welcomed especially for the Family Celebration Services.

WEEKDAY SERVICES:

Monday. Wednesday & Friday at 8 am Morning Prayer Tuesday at 8.30 am Just Prayers

'LITTLE LIONS' usually meet on Wednesday mornings In the Memorial Hall but this is during term-time only. It is for babies/toddlers & their carers.





BIBLE STUDY GROUPS usually meet in the church on Mondays (10am) and Thursdays (8pm)

Everyone is welcome to join. Details on board. The new course details will be on the notice board and at the back of church.