

**PARISH OF SOUTHMINSTER
MAGAZINE OF THE
CHURCH OF ST LEONARD**



SEPTEMBER 2019

“He will be with you”

Deuteronomy 31:8

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*Articles for the October magazine to
Kath Dunstan by **Sunday 15 September**
at the latest please,
New contributors welcome.*

This magazine costs 50p,
Please pay in church.
**Or pay in advance if your
magazine is delivered to you.**
Details from
Brenda Sheppard

Reflection

“He will be with you” Deuteronomy 31:8

We come to a new term in school and many young people will have come to school for the first time or moved on to a new school to begin another academic year in different surroundings. Starting new things brings our anxiety levels a little higher; the thought of the unknown makes us wary of the surroundings and those who are near us. We see things with new eyes.

This is true when we go on our holidays: the trip, whether by car, train or aeroplane makes the adrenaline flow faster through our veins and arrival at our destination with sense of, maybe, mild anxiety to sort out our accommodation keeps us in the realm of excitement yet cautious. Everything seems to settle down once we become familiar with the surroundings. If we holiday to the same place, or visit relatives we are not so anxious, in fact we become excited to see the places and venues that we have so often enjoyed – and then we do not worry.

Our Holiday Club was a special event this year with so many young people coming back for their second and third times, knowing what to expect and relaxing from the

start, once they had got the theme of the week in their minds. For others it took a day or so for them to settle and get used to the routine, and then they relaxed enough to learn some of the teaching. It was special too, in the sense that all the young people listened to what was being said and they took part in prayers and activities that built their own relationship with God; a relationship that, we pray, will stay with them throughout their lives. The memory verse that we had in Holiday Club was from Deuteronomy 31; 8 which says “The Lord Himself will go before you. He will be with you. He will not leave you or forget you. Don’t be afraid and don’t worry”. As we learnt this verse it started to permeate our spirits breaking through the barrier of our minds and feeding our spirit. Knowing that God is with us at all times is not something that we think about, we can just know that He is with us, it is not a feeling but a foundation for how we are and how we respond in our Christian lives.

When Jesus was on the cross He cried out to God the words of David from Psalm 22 “My God, My God, Why have you forsaken me?” Jesus knew at that moment the absence of the Father in His life, as He went through the judgement of God and paid the price for us all. From a young lad, Jesus knew the presence of the

Father with Him at every moment, and every action was to glorify the Father and make Him known. Our actions through our lives today are the same: that we know the presence of the Father with us at all times and our lives reflect the kingdom of God and glorify our Father in heaven.

Our lives are full of new beginnings, whether at school, occupation or social; we could move house, vicinity or country, but one thing is constant – that He will be with you wherever you are and whatever your situation. That He *will* be with you is a promise of God and promises of God are *never* broken. May God bless you with the knowledge of His presence with you, in you and through you.

“The Lord Himself will go before you. He will be with you. He will not leave you or forget you. Don’t be afraid and don’t worry.”

Peter

GOD IS GOOD! ALL THE TIME!

The planned programme went well and we were blessed with lovely fine weather for the outside activities. We were able to borrow benches etc. (for games) from Southminster School and black curtains from Southminster Choral Society - and as usual we could use the whole of the nave because we don't have pews. Thank you Harry Payne for the photo —>



We are extremely grateful to Jenny Pratt, Karen Flack (principal organisers) and all the Group leaders for their wonderful preparation work in readiness for the week. This is not to forget the young helpers of course. Also we thank Pete Adams (sound & vision) Paul Lucas (registration and Games) Gordon Baker (games) and all the Refreshment helpers. Obviously Rev'd Peter played a vital part every day too.

Kath Dunstan

The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity (8th Sept.) is **Education Sunday**

The new school term will have started and students of all ages will be beginning a new period of their lives.

On the Diocesan Website in the WE PRAY section there is this very helpful prayer.

Lord God, we thank you for the education we have received from teachers and schools, from colleges, academies and universities, from parents and friends. Help us to support those who work in education, to appreciate the important job that they do in shaping the future of our world and to remember them in our prayers.

PRAY also for
the Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan,
The Most Revd Ezekiel Kumir Kondo, Archbishop.

In case you didn't realise - and unfortunately we didn't mention it in the August magazine - Southminster and Steeple were prayed for on 1st August and we were all encouraged to pray for the Diocese and its links.

If you would like to keep up to date with the prayer diary just check the Diocesan website for yourself.

There is also lots of news on the website, including details of events we hold here. Publicity is important, as we know from the number of people who check our own website and our Facebook page.

Leave a Legacy?

I have written in the front of my Bible the words “I am not responsible for the face I started life with, but I am responsible for the face I finish up with!” Challenging words which got me thinking “What sort of legacy will I leave behind, how will I be remembered?”



In one of my UCB Word for Today notes it talked about the life of Mozart, who at a very young age was a composer and accomplished musician. Even so he lived most of his life in poverty and died in obscurity so what is he remembered for? What is his legacy? Not particularly the life he lived but the music he gave the world that still enriches our lives today.

So how do we interpret the word legacy? Is it: Money or property left in a will; something handed down by a predecessor as an inheritance like a gift or an heirloom or even a birthright?

We hear and see a lot in the media today about protecting our own and our children's inheritance mainly in the monetary sense. But how do we view it as a Christian? We know our ultimate inheritance is much more than financial gain it is the inheritance of eternal life in heaven with Jesus when we have accepted Him as our Lord and Saviour. Ephesians 1:13-14 tells us that having believed in Jesus we were given a deposit, the promised Holy Spirit who guarantees and protects the promised inheritance.

Jesus tells his disciples in John 15:16 that he chose them and appointed them to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last. We don't get to choose the moment of our arrival and departure here on earth but as Jesus' disciples we do get to choose what our legacy will be, what we will be remembered for.

So, as we try to do our best for Jesus, the words we long to hear from Him are "Well done, you good and faithful servant." We need to always remember that the Holy Spirit is always there as our guide, our counsellor, our life giver, our helper in our weaknesses and so much more.

So, don't let us just leave a will, let us leave a legacy that fulfils God's Will and that the face we finish up with gives all the glory back to Him.



Brenda Sheppard

(The idea and some content of this article is used with permission from UCB Word For Today and that free issues of the daily devotional are available from: United Christian Broadcasters, Westport road, Stoke on Trent ST6 4JF)



Smile at these "puns for educated minds"



- 1 Atheism is a non-prophet organization.
- 2 When cannibals ate a missionary, they got a taste of religion.
- 3 A backward poet writes inverse.



Monday 16th September

Our Community

Start time is 3.45 pm

Age range aimed especially
for children at Primary School
with parent or carer

A family afternoon of fun and messiness.

Future dates

Monday 7th October
Harvest

Monday 4th November
Remember Me

Monday 2nd December
Snowy Christmas

ROTA REPLY SLIP YOUR AVAILABILITY FOR 2 MONTHS

Please cross out the dates when you are **not** available and return this slip to **Paul Lucas** by 15th September

November 2019 3 10 17 24

December 2019 1 8 15 22 24 25 29

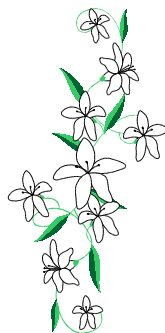
Name

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

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Our sincere thanks go to all the Flower Team members for their lovely continuing work.

Please remember that altar flowers can also be sponsored during the year in memory of a loved one or a special occasion. A couple of weeks notice of this would be appreciated and the name and donation passed to one of the churchwardens or to Kathy Pegg.



Our thanks, too, go to the team who have planted lovely flowers in the churchyard beds. If you want to help in the garden speak with Bob Perry or Fiona Begley.

PRAY FOR SOUTHMINSTER:

w/b 1 September
w/b 8 September
w/b 15 September
w/b 22 September
w/b 29 September

North - East
Central - North-West
Central - East
Central - South
South - West



ROTA FOR SEPTEMBER 2019

Date **1 September**

11th Sunday after Trinity

08.00 Holy Communion (BCP)

Col: Green

Leader/President/Preacher

Rev'd Peter/Jenny Pratt

Jeremiah 2 : 4 - 13

Paul Lucas

Luke 14 : 1, 7 - 14

Celebrant

Sidesman/ Communion Asst.

Paul Lucas

10.45 Morning Worship

Leader/Preacher

Norman Pratt

Jeremiah 2 : 4 - 13

Sylvia Adams

Luke 14 : 1, 7 - 14

Sylvia Adams

Intercessions

Jacky Griffiths

Prayer Ministry Team

Jacky Griffiths & Fiona Begley

Audio-Visual Operator

Christine Morgan

Sidespersons

Paul Lucas & David Johnson

Refreshments

Christine Lucas & Sandra Billingham

Date **8 September**

12th Sunday after Trinity

08.00 Holy Communion (BCP)

Col: Green

Leader/President/Preacher

Rev'd Ken Dunstan

Jeremiah 18 : 1 - 11

Anne Wodhams

Luke 14 : 25 - 43

Celebrant

Sidesman/ Communion Asst.

Pete Adams/ Anne Wodhams

10.45 Family Celebration for Education Sunday

Leader/ Preacher

Rev'd Peter / Rev'd Peter & Karen Flack

Jeremiah 18 : 1 - 11

Mike Bikhazi

Luke 14 : 25 - 43

Mike Bikhazi

Intercessions

Jenny Pratt

Prayer Ministry Team

Brenda Sheppard & Viv Perry

Audio-Visual Operator

Sylvia Adams

Sidespersons

Mo Shakspeare & Rosemary Cooper

Refreshments

Linda Payne & Rosemary Cooper

ROTA FOR SEPTEMBER 2019

Date **15 September**

13th Sunday after Trinity

08.00 Holy Communion (BCP)

Col: Green

Leader/President/Preacher
Jeremiah 4 : 11 - 12, 22 - 28
Luke 15 : 1 - 10
Sidesman/ Communion Asst.

Rev'd Peter/ Jenny Pratt
Sheila Nicholson
Celebrant
Paul Lucas

10.45 Holy Communion

Leader/President/Preacher
Jeremiah 4 : 11 - 12, 22 - 28
Luke 15 : 1 - 10
Intercessions
Prayer Ministry Team
Communion Assistants
Audio-Visual Operator
Sidespersons
Refreshments

Rev'd Peter / Jenny Pratt
Jenny Pratt
Jenny Pratt
Kath Dunstan
Jacky Griffiths & Fiona Begley
Paul Lucas & Mike Bikhazi
Christine Lucas
Mike Bikhazi & Rosemary Cooper
Bob Perry & Viv Perry

Date **22 September**

14th Sunday after Trinity

08.00 Holy Communion (BCP)

Col: Green

Leader/President/Preacher
Jeremiah 8 : 18 - 8 : 1
Luke 16 : 1 - 13
Sidesman/ Communion Asst.

Rev'd Peter
Kathy Pegg
Celebrant
Pete Adams/ Kathy Pegg

10.45 Morning Worship

Leader/preacher
Jeremiah 8 : 18 - 8 : 1
Luke 16 : 1 - 13
Intercessions
Prayer Ministry Team
Audio-Visual Operator
Sidespersons
Refreshments

Norman Pratt
Linda Payne
Linda Payne
Fiona Begley
Sylvia Adams & Brenda Sheppard
Mike Bikhazi
Mo Shakspeare/ Brenda Sheppard
Sally Culff & Maureen Smith

SEPTEMBER SERVICES AT STEEPLE

Sunday	1 st	9.15 am	Family Service
Sunday	8 th	9.15 am	Holy Communion
Sunday	15 th	9.15 am	Morning Worship
Sunday	22 nd	9.15 am	Holy Communion
Sunday	29 th	10.30 am	United Service here

SOUTHMINSTER ROTA CONTINUED

Date **29 September**

15th Sunday after Trinity

08.00 Holy Communion (BCP)

Col: Green

Leader/President/Preacher

Rev'd Peter / Jenny Pratt

Jeremiah 32 : 1 - 3a; 6 - 15

Anne Wodhams

Luke 16 : 19 - end

Celebrant

Sidesman/ Communion Asst.

Pete Adams / Anne Wodhams

10.30 United Service at Steeple Church

Leader/preacher

Rev'd Peter / Jenny Pratt

Jeremiah 32 : 1 - 3a; 6 - 15

t.b.a.

Luke 16 : 19 - end

t.b.a.

All other tasks t.b.a.

NEW INFORMAL WORSHIP SESSIONS

In addition to our regular services we now have informal
worship evenings at St Leonard's
and the ones planned are

1st September 29th September

27th October 24th November

Full details will be available on the weekly bulletin.

REGULAR MIDWEEK ACTIVITIES

PCC meetings and related committee meetings
are usually on Monday evenings.

The **Music Group** meets on Fridays at 7.45 pm
& occasional Tuesdays. See Hazel Richards for details.

Bellringers meet occasionally in the tower
but we don't have our own regular team now.

Henry Club - Church Cleaning Team - meets twice a month
at 9.30 am (normally on Fridays)
September : Fridays 6th and 20th

Flower arranging is usually on Fridays or Saturdays.
Please see churchwardens and booking list at back of church.

CHURCH GROUNDS WORKING PARTY

Details of these will be in the weekly notices

Midweek Morning Prayer services (Mon., Wed. and Fri.)

8:00 am (about half an hour) in the chapel.

Tuesdays 8:30 am "Just Prayer"

and **9 am - 11.30 am**

"Common Ground" Coffee morning



HOME GROUPS

Normally they are Mondays at 10 am
and Thursdays at 7.45 pm for 8 pm
and they will return from Summer break this month

Young people and children are always welcome.
especially at 10.45 services.

Messy Church is once a month on Mondays. See page 10.

Weekly Bulletin information should be sent to
Christine Morgan, (See 'Who's Who' page)

Weekly bulletins and church notice boards list any other events in the Church.

What's On in the Local Area: September 2019

Arrangements in St Nicholas, Tillingham

Sunday 1st	10.00 am	Family Service
Wednesday 4th	9.15 am	Morning Prayers
Sunday 8th	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 11th	9.15 am	Morning Prayers
Sunday 15th	10.00 am	Family Service
Wednesday 18th	9.15 am	Morning Prayers
Sunday 22nd	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 25th	9.15 am	Morning Prayers
Sunday 29th	10.30 am	Joint Benefice Communion at St Thomas' church, Bradwell

September Services at St James, Dengie

September 1st	Holy Communion	8 am. Rev. Steven Poss.
September 8th	Evensong	3 pm Rev. Steven Poss.
September 15th	Holy Communion	8 am. Rev. Steven Poss
September 22nd	Evensong	3 pm Rev. Steven Poss.
September 29th	Joint Benefice Service at 10.30 am (see above)	

DENGIE HOPES AND DREAMS came true!

It was lovely to be able to support the young people in their production of "The Blue Crystal" at Dengie Village Hall, Asheldham (August 9th and 10th). This Sci-fi adventure brought a clear message (with lots of humour) about the importance of sharing the earth's resources. The Group's 20th production was excellent.

Ken and Kath Dunstan

SOUTHMINSTER COMMUNITY EVENTS

Southminster W.I.

We normally meet at Southminster Memorial Hall

Tuesday 3rd September Tracy Wise : Nursery Crimes
Competition : Glass Ornament

Memorial Hall
Wishing Well Club
will not meet in August
but will resume on
10th September

Light lunch, games & good company.

APPLE FUN DAY
Sunday 22nd September
2 pm - 5 pm

Orchard
Meadows



See page 21 for details

The **SOUTHMINSTER**
CHATTERBOX
meets in the Memorial Hall on
Thursday mornings
from 10 am until noon.
The Bereavement Group is
there on 1st & 3rd Thursdays
and there are
Weight Management Sessions.

THE COMMUNITY **LUNCH CLUB**

meets in the Memorial Hall
every Monday at 12.30
except bank holidays and
first Sundays of the month.
It is important to book in on
the previous Friday by calling
Kath Savage

Little Lions Baby & Toddler Group
meets at the Memorial Hall **during term-time**
every Wednesday 10am - noon
Singing, craft, refreshments....



£2 for adult and up to 2 children, 50p per extra child.
Come and play, stay and chat; all parents & carers are welcomed.



PRAYER by Viv Perry



I have just completed a nine week course on PRAYER run by Fiona at the Vicarage. I found this course very informative and challenging and I would recommend it to anyone who wanted to learn more about prayer. It has made me more aware of my own prayer life and I am now really trying to place prayer at the top of my "to do" list every day.

Every week we would watch a short DVD and then discuss the various topics. We studied silent prayer, how to lament, how to pray the promises of God, how to maintain a prayer list, how to practise the presence of God, unanswered prayer, how to speak in tongues, how to confess sin, how to fast and warfare prayer.

It was good to be in a small group of about eight most weeks. We all listened to each other's comments and brought in our views on the different prayer topics. We always prayed at the beginning of the evening and then again at the end. It felt a very safe environment and everything that was said was said in complete confidence.

Thank you, Fiona. I've moved on a notch in my prayer life.

Discover treasure in church!

Our St Leonard's library is a treasure trove of spiritual wisdom and encouragement which is easy to miss because it is tucked away at the back of the building, to the right of the Bell Tower. Do take a fresh look after you have enjoyed your refreshments at the coffee tables nearby!

There are many inspirational and helpful books which are free to borrow for as long as you need. We can learn more about many aspects of the Christian life: prayer, healing, relationships or understanding the Bible. You can find some intriguing Christian science fiction and several interesting biographies of famous Christians such as Corrie ten Boon, Terry Waite and C.S Lewis, to name a few. There are also Bible commentaries and Bibles. Parents, please note the children's section where there are attractive picture books for little ones, and exciting titles for older children.

We have more than just books! A small collection of CDs offering contemporary worship music, DVDs, and even audio cassettes are available for our enjoyment and benefit. Why not have a browse and choose a couple of items to borrow?

When you have particularly enjoyed a book or CD, reviews would be welcome for this magazine!

Thank you to everyone who has donated books and music. Shelf space is limited but it is good to receive new resources so that the library can be refreshed. Please let me know if you wish to contribute anything. Thank you.

Christine Lucas

Churches Can Change Climate Change!

“Very few Christians seem to think that the growing environmental crisis has anything to do with them – and very few environmentalists expect better of Christians.” The words are those of the charity ‘A Rocha.’ The charity began in 1983 when Peter and Miranda Harris and Leslie and Wendy Batty moved from Merseyside to the Algarve and set up a Christian Field Study centre. “A Rocha” is Portuguese for “The Rock.” Now the charity is active in 19 countries. A new book by Sue Pickering, “Listening and Spiritual Conversation” quotes this story as an example of “power pods”, small groups making a difference.

Nowadays very few people have any reason to be unaware that our global climate is changing, that the changes are driven by human activity and that they are sufficiently large and rapid to do disastrous harm to a world that cannot adapt quickly enough to them. A Rocha wants us to understand that although governments can act, small groups can and must make a difference. One such small group is a P.C.C. The PCC can choose to become an Eco-church. Eco-church originated with A Rocha. It offers a set of guidelines and targets to make our Church – buildings, land, processes and people – more nature-friendly. The world-wide Anglican Communion sees this as part of the Christian Mission to which God calls us. Kath and I are part of the Diocesan Environmental Strategy Group, which in 2010 wrote the Diocesan Policy, “It is possible to live differently.” Eco-church helps us do it.

September is now recognised as “Creation Season.” Let’s celebrate God’s provision for life, and let’s also do what he commands, to “work it and take care of it” (Genesis 2:15) in ways that honour the other living things he gave us as neighbours to love.

Ken Dunstan

PS One local organisation doing great things is FOSCOS.

APPLE FUN DAY



Sunday 22nd September 2019
2pm to 5pm

Free Entry at Orchard Meadows,
off Southfield Way, Southminster

Come and See Southminster's Community Orchards

Activities on offer will include:-

Fun Dog Show

Treasure Hunt in the Orchard

Apple Pie Baking Competition,
Trade & Charity Stalls

& More.....

Refreshments served by Southminster WI

Burger Van

Ice Cream Van

Wibblers Brewery

Organised by FOSCOS

The Friends of Southminster Community Open Spaces

For more information or to book a stall

Please phone 01621 773243

Or email paulaneall@yahoo.co.uk

A NOTE FOR YOUR DIARIES

and something to tell your friends about

There will be a new **ALPHA** course
starting at the Vicarage on

Thursday 26th September at 6 pm.



As usual, this will be an ideal time for people to gather and find out more about the Christian faith. There's always more to learn. Questions are welcomed and answers are shared. It is also useful as part of the preparation for Confirmation.

ALSO COMING UP

There will be an **ORGAN RECITAL** in church
by **Gillian Ward Russell**
on **Sunday 6th October**

Full details will be available soon.

NOTICE ABOUT THE ART EXHIBITION

As part of an ongoing audit of our activities, the church council of St. Leonard's has recently made the decision to broaden its approach to community outreach and social events. Consequently the Art and Craft Exhibition for this year has been cancelled, but it is envisaged that art and craft will continue to play an important part on future occasions, possibly alongside other crafts or incorporated into existing events.

We wish to warmly thank all participants for their invaluable support during the past decade, and we trust that they will continue to feel able to work with St Leonard's in the future, once plans have been formalised.

Christine Lucas

WHAT'S WHAT

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

THIS MONTH at St Leonard's

Everyone is welcome at all our services.

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

10:45 am Holy Communion or Morning Worship

(Prayer ministry for any needs is available during /after 10.45 services)

Light refreshments are served after the 10.45 services.

Children and Young people are always welcomed, especially for the

Family Celebration Service on September 8th

This month's services are listed in detail on pages 12 - 13

MESSY CHURCH is held monthly on Monday afternoons
starting at 3.45 pm (See p 10)



'LITTLE LIONS' on Wednesday mornings at the Memorial Hall is for babies /toddlers with their carers. **(during term-time only)** See p. 17

Midweek Prayer times (Mon., Wed. and Fri.) 8:00 am (about half an hour) and **Tuesdays at 8.30 am** (Just Prayer) in the chapel

followed by **COMMON GROUND** (coffee & chat)

United Service for Elderly at Southminster Residential Home
on Thursday 19th September

and at **Squeaks House** (contact Norman Pratt or Jacky Griffiths)
on Wednesday 11th September (Date t.b.c.)

Rev'd Peter visits the Residential Home and Squeaks House regularly for Holy Communion services. Details are in church.

REMEMBER THE APPLE FUN DAY ON 22 Sept. See page 21