

MAY

2019



All Saints' Church
Preston on Tees

A Precious Time of Sabbatical

Sometimes God surprises us with unexpected, kind gifts. Being offered a three-month sabbatical to run from January to March has certainly been a precious gift.

Summarising it briefly is not easy but, in short, I feel it has been an important, God-ordained time during which I had the opportunity to step back after 19+ years of leading children's ministry, making daily time to hear God's voice more clearly, to sit at Jesus' feet and to be refreshed – spiritually, mentally, emotionally, and physically which I realised was much needed.

The words that kept coming back to me throughout it were 'YOU ARE A GOOD, GOOD FATHER', as the song says; one who knows me so well and knows exactly what I need and when I need it.

I have been so grateful for the wonderful sense of Father God's deep kindness, gentleness, and love towards

me especially during my sabbatical time.

Times of renewal, refreshment and retreat have featured highly and I am still processing things I believe God has spoken to me about through times of prayer and reading the Bible, talks I listened to, and words and pictures from other people.

A source of refreshment for Chris and me was the opportunity to worship in a variety of local churches on Sundays, receiving through the worship, preaching and fellowship with the sense of fresh expectancy that sabbatical brings.

A couple of short retreat times away were also precious opportunities for us to seek God together.

I was very encouraged through visiting a wide variety of other children's, families and schools ministries locally,

and networking with children's workers in a way I wouldn't normally have time to do.

Shadowing our Diocesan Children's Advisor and attending other relevant diocesan meetings was also very helpful.

A big **thank you** to our leadership who enabled my sabbatical to happen, to my wonderful teams who ran the children's and families ministries so well in my absence, and to those who sent Chris and me encouragements and kept us in their prayers.

Good to be back!

Jan Peters
Children and Families Outreach Worker



DATES - MAY 2019

PRAYER

Ablaze Prayer Meeting

Sun 5 May, 6pm - Meeting Room

Morning Prayer

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri, 9am - Chapel

CHILDREN/FAMILIES

Messy Church

Sun 12 May, 3.30pm - Church and Centre

Toddlers

Thurs (term-time), 9.30am - Centre

Play and Praise

Fri (term-time), 10.15am - Centre

Puppet Practice

Tues 7pm - Youth Room

LEADERSHIP

Ministry Development Team

Wed 1 May, 7.30pm - Vicarage

Standing Committee

Mon 6 May, 7.30pm - Vicarage

Deanery Synod

Tue 7 May, 7.15pm – Billingham Team Parish

Pastoral Care Team

Thu 16 May, 7.30pm - Karen Snowden's

PCC

Mon 20 May, 7.30pm - Meeting Room

REACH Steering Group

Dates yet to be confirmed

YOUTH

Youth Leadership Life Group

Mon 13 May, 6-8pm - Meeting Room

Café Church

Tues 14 May, 7-8.30pm - Costa Coffee Shop, Yarm

Refresh Youth Service

Sun 19 May, 6pm - Centre
Guest Speaker: Phil Knox

Doulos Leadership Training

Mon 20 May, 7-9pm - Youth Room

Youth Life Groups

Wed (term-time), 6-8pm - Youth Room/Meeting Room

Youth Club

Fri (term-time), 7-9pm - Centre

YFC 'Equip' Leaders' Meeting

Mon (term-time), 9am-12pm - Church

MIDWEEK

Alpha Course

Thurs 9, 16, 23, 30 May, 7pm - Youth Room

Shifting Atmospheres Course

Tues 14 May, 7pm - Meeting Room

Connect Worship Service

Tue 14 May, 11.45am - Church

Connect Lunch Club

Tue 14 May, 12.15pm - Centre

Connect Seated Exercise

Tues 12.45pm - Centre (2pm on Lunch Club day)

Ascension Day Service

Thurs 30 May, 7.30pm - Long Newton

Informal Holy Communion

Wed 9.30am - Meeting Room

Life Groups

Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs
See notice board in Centre

SUMMER

New Wine United (Week 2)

4-10 August, East of England Showground, Peterborough

Soul Survivor (Week B)

17-22 August, East of England Showground, Peterborough

SUNDAY SERVICES – MAY 2019

5 MAY

9am Holy Communion

Peace, Power and Purpose

Ephesians 2.13-18 and John 20.19-23

Service Leader: John Lambert

Preacher: Scott Linnett

10.30am Holy Communion

Peace, Power and Purpose

Ephesians 2.13-18 and John 20.19-23

Service Leader: John Lambert

Preacher: Scott Linnett

6pm Ablaze Prayer

12 MAY

9am Holy Communion

Unless I See...

1 Peter 1.3-9 and John 20.24-29

Service Leader: Andrew Killick

Preacher: John Lambert

10.30am Morning Worship

Unless I See...

1 Peter 1.3-9 and John 20.24-29

Service Leader: Andrew Killick

Preacher: John Lambert

3.30pm Messy Church

19 MAY

9am Morning Worship

Theme to be confirmed

Readings to be confirmed

Service Leader: Paul Arnold

Preacher: Mike Taylor (Youth for Christ)

10.30am Morning Worship

Theme to be confirmed

Readings to be confirmed

Service Leader: Kathryn Belmont

Preacher: Mike Taylor (Youth for Christ)

6pm Refresh Youth Service

Preacher: Phil Knox

26 MAY

9am Holy Communion

It Is the Lord!

1 Corinthians 15.1-8 and John 21.1-14

Service Leader: Sue Ireland

Preacher: Paul Clayton

10.30am Morning Worship

It Is the Lord!

1 Corinthians 15.1-8 and John 21.1-14

Service Leader: Gillian Davison

Preacher: Paul Arnold



30 May - 9 June

A global wave of prayer calling all Christians to pray for more people to come to know Jesus Christ.

