



MAY
2022



All Saints' Church
Preston on Tees

VISION FOR THIS YEAR

In life there are some compliments which are appropriate. When you are young the compliment seems to be 'smart'. As you get older you might progress onto 'cool'. As an adult you might be 'young'. I have discovered this week vicars when on good form are complimented as 'not boring'! What a compliment!



According to many, our APCM (annual meeting) was not boring; and some went further:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ra3ZByyM6aM&t=4410s> It was a great chance to celebrate all that has gone on. We celebrated the service of many on the PCC, of our volunteers, of the staff, of all sorts of people. Since last April 2021 we have come a long way, so that we are back in person more or less without restriction. Our aspiration was not to rebuild exactly as before, but to switch our focus on a few things, and this has been wonderful to see. New things therefore we have started this year include: - Youth Apprenticeships, the Encounter evening service, Prayer Appointments, the 20+ group, the Pioneer Think Tank, the Yr5/6 Life Group, and I am sure there are more. From groups for our youngest, to our most mature, we have focussed our efforts on Connecting with one another, and connecting with God.

You might remember last year at the APCM I launched the vision of connecting with the Church Family, with Our Friends, with Our Communities, and with the wider area and Diocese. We have made some great progress; holding social events, focussing through the Shapes and Sharing Faith Courses on our own growth; but also reaching out through Exploring Faith evenings, and improving our use of social media. We have been working on engaging with our local community and are working with a number of partner organisations; most recently with the council to support Ukrainian refugees



In the year to come we want to raise our game regarding discipleship so that every single person has at least one other Christian from the church who they are regularly talking to about their faith and helping them grow. This might be through life groups, but it may happen when you approach a couple of people to ask them to meet with you. We want to continue to step out in boldness sharing the good news of Jesus and making more opportunities for people to explore faith. We will continue to seek to partner with others in our communities and are looking forward to getting back into our schools so we can encourage the children there in their lives and journeys of faith.

We will be working closely with the diocese and local churches so as to help strengthen the wider church so it can reach out more effectively across Teesside. We will also be starting to look at planting, using a starfish model where the arms are the many ministries we run, but that regularly we consider how an arm might become a whole new starfish with a planting team.

The Bible has a lot to say about first fruits, and I believe we have started to see some first fruit in a number of key areas, not least being new people coming to faith and being baptised. We are not content with some fruit; we want the harvest! And so, I hope you will join me in continuing to pray for the full outpouring of God's spirit so that we grow in our knowledge and love of him, and so that we see Jesus change our communities.

Can I encourage you to reflect; what is your vision for this year? What do you want to see God do? How do you want to grow in your faith and what steps will you take to help that to happen? Who are you hoping to bless and share your faith with? Where are you hoping to do good? Where would you like to see new churches planted? How will God meet you this year? God I am sure has more in store for us in 2022.

Matt Levinsohn



Mexico Mission Trip

It was a real privilege to spend this Easter building a house for the Santiago Morales family in Tijuana, Mexico, and it could not have been done without the wonderful, sacrificial support, encouragement, and prayers of our All Saints' family. We are so thankful and wanted to share some of our experience with you.

There's something about going on a mission trip that cannot be compared to any other experience. In Mexico, our entire purpose was to serve God by building a house for a family who needed one to safely raise their children. We were disconnected from the rest of the world which allowed us to become more connected with each other and build a stronger relationship with God. Personally, whilst in Mexico, I learned the importance of slowing down and making space to meet with God. He is always there and taking away the distractions from the outside world allowed me to see that more clearly. In his beautiful creation, I saw how wonderful he is and through other people I saw his love. Mexico was an experience unlike anything I've done before and I feel privileged to have had this opportunity. Thank you for everyone who supported us in getting there. [Anna Wheeldon]

I got the great opportunity to go to Mexico in 2020. It has been a long wait, but the wait couldn't be more worth it. This trip was my first mission trip, so I didn't know what to expect. Building a house in only 5 days with no power tools seemed like it would almost be impossible, and it did come with its challenges, but with those challenges I learnt more about God every day and how to serve and be a reflection of God's love and joy. I also had the great honour to give the keys of the new house to the family and I can't describe how emotional but happy I was that this family had now got a house they could turn into a home, and it was all because God put me there. [Eliya Trevorrow]



Photography by Jacob Howard

Life Groups

The Ingleby Life group has been running now for 4 years and I have had the pleasure of coordinating the group for most of that time. Although named the Ingleby Life Group we are spread out over a bigger area with people coming from, Northallerton, Darlington, Great Broughton, Yarm, Eaglescliffe, Maltby and Ingleby Barwick.

We meet every second week on a Tuesday evening and due to the fact that we are spread out, we decided at the beginning that we would meet at the different family homes represented. I have also been blessed with a number of the group willing to lead sessions which is a great support for me and brings plenty of variety to our sessions.

Our sessions are focused on studying God's word, praying, supporting, and encouraging each other and when we can, spending time with each other socialising (mainly involving food!). Personally, we have appreciated the support the group gave us during Judith's illness, and this is a real strength of the group.

During the pandemic we continued to meet on Zoom, which was not the ideal way to meet but still allowed us to keep in touch and encourage each other. Zoom has continued to serve its purpose in the group when we meet up with the Main family in Sunderland, who are our link missionaries.

I would encourage those not presently in a life group to consider joining one, or even getting together with a group of friends to form a new one!

Derek Evans



Environmental Working Party

“The Earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters”

The big picture - Christians and our responsibility to the environment

- We are called to be stewards.
- We live in a beautiful but broken world.
- Climate change is a justice issue.
- Christians and churches have a crucial role in calling for and working towards a world that allows everyone and everything to flourish.

To help us at All Saints’ grapple with how we pro-actively live out our responsibility to God’s creation with have signed up to the Eco Church Award. It is a scheme for churches who want to demonstrate that the gospel is good news for God’s earth.

There is an online self-assessment tool for churches to use covering five key areas of church life:

- Worship and teaching
- Management of church buildings
- Management of church land
- Community and global engagement
- Lifestyle choices

The tool will identify actions we can commit to individually, as families and as a church family. There are also requirements that our commitment to God’s creation is shared with our local communities and that we not only think about what we do here in Eaglescliffe but also are mindful of our impacts on our global brothers and sisters. The PCC Eco working group has done an quick assessment using the Eco award tool and we’ve started the very initial thinking about areas we can take steps as a church family and within our local community.

Our responsibility to God’s creation involves us all – if you’d like to learn more, we have arranged two sessions where we will explain where we have got to, and we’d love to hear your thoughts and ideas. Attending doesn’t commit you to anything at this stage Other than being prepared to have your eyes opened about what might be possible to glorify and protect our wonderful earth.

The sessions are:

- Thursday 5 May, Meeting Room 10.30am-11.30am
- Thursday 5 May, Youth Room 6pm-7pm.



Karen Killick, Paul Wheeldon,
Margaret Vaughan

Ukraine Family Hosting

Following the outbreak of war in Ukraine, we like the rest of the world were shocked and saddened to hear about the plight of millions of refugees who were having to flee their homes and leave their lives behind them. Initial thoughts were of shock and disbelief and thinking is this really happening? Why is Putin doing this? How would I feel if this was my country and my family? We gave money to help the aid agencies, but it didn't seem enough. We felt helpless hearing of the atrocities that were being committed every day. What more could we do? We talked together as a family about becoming a host and we signed up for the scheme.

Judith contacted us asking if we would host Karina the 17-year-old friend of her guest and while sitting in the carpark of Newcastle airport on the way to see my parents, we said yes. The next couple of hours were spent messaging back and forth (apart from when we were on the plane!) We arranged a video conference with Judith, the two girls and Karina's Mum. It was an emotional conversation, and unbelievably difficult for Karina's Mum agreeing to send her daughter to us. We applied immediately for the visa, and we have now had an anxious wait. Each day I have sent messages to Karina and gradually we are getting to know her. She is waiting in Lviv with her friend. Last week, Lviv was targeted with bombs and our concerns to get them out of the country were heightened. Today more than three weeks on we are still waiting.

Please pray with us, for all the guests who are being hosted by members of the church. Our journeys as hosts are just beginning. Please also pray for us as we meet with other hosts from Teesside to see what support we as a church can offer as a potential hub for this area. The other hosts are the Evans family, the Lankford family and Anna Levin. If you can help in any way, please talk to us.

Ruth & Stuart Johnson



5 Years As A Warden

As my time as a warden at All Saints comes to an end, I have been reflecting on what has happened during that time. Here are just a few of the things that have changed during the five years.

- We have had 3 major building projects as part of Reach.
 - Meeting room, church entrance and office relocation
 - New zoned heating system
 - New Chapel, stage area and baptistry.
- We have had 5 different tenants in the two properties we own and have undertaken significant work to both properties. Thanks go to Matt Falcus for managing these on our behalf.
- We have had 5 different people in the roles of Administrator and Receptionist.
- We gained a curate (Paul Arnold) and then said farewell as he went with the team to St Paul's in 2021.

- We have said farewell to John & Kathie and welcomed Matt and his family to All Saints.
- And of course, we had a Pandemic! When we had to quickly develop ways in which we could continue to worship together whilst being confined to our homes.

So all in all quite a quiet five years really!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who serve here at All Saints, many whose work goes unseen, but without which many things simply wouldn't happen. In particular I would like to thank my fellow wardens Karen and Anne for all they have done and continue to do.

As Chris Vass takes the helm alongside Anne, I hope he enjoys his time as warden in what may be slightly more settled times. But whatever the Lord has planned for the next few years we look forward to continuing our adventure with him.

Martin Howard

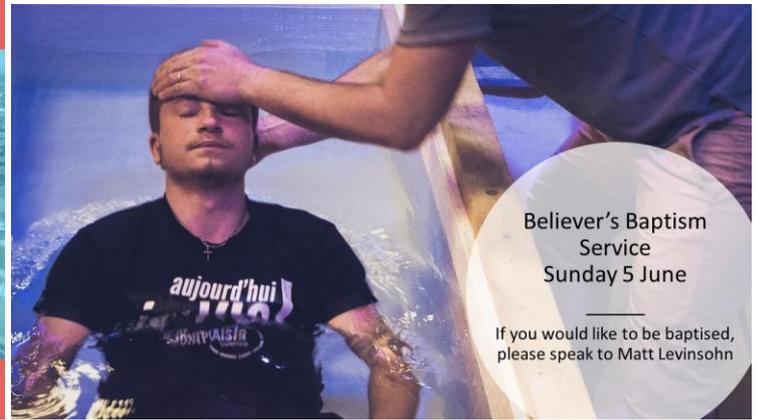


Teesside Churches
UNITY SERVICE

Pentecost

5TH JUNE, 6PM

Stockton Parish Church, High St, Stockton-on-Tees TS18 1SP
Doors open 5:30pm - 6pm Start
Arrive early to guarantee a seat



Believer's Baptism
Service
Sunday 5 June

If you would like to be baptised,
please speak to Matt Levisohn

If you have joined us recently or you know someone who has, please speak to Matt so we can invite you to join us our next Welcome Lunch – or email the office:

office.allsaints@gmail.com



Our Next Welcome Lunch
is on Sunday 22 May for
anyone who has recently
joined us.

Please speak to Matt if
you would like to attend

Dates May 2022				
Prayer	Midweek	Youth	Children & Families	Other
Morning Prayer Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 9.10am Zoom: 862 4733 2301 Password 316316	Informal Holy Communion Wed 9.30am - Centre	Youth Life Groups <i>term time</i> Wed, 6-8pm – everyone to start in the Youth Rooms	Toddlers Thurs <i>term time</i> 9.45am -11.30am - Centre	Welcome Lunch Sunday 22 May 12.30pm-2pm Centre
Prayer & Worship Sat 7 May 10am-11am Meeting Room	Life Groups – various days/times see noticeboard in Centre	Youth Club <i>term time</i> Fri, 7-9pm – Centre	Play and Praise Fri <i>term time</i> 10.15am-11.45am – Centre	Pioneer Think Tank Weds 25 May 8-9pm Vicarage
Encounter Sun 22 May 6.30pm-8pm, Church	Connect Lunch Club Tues 10 May 11.45am - 2pm	Youth Church – during our Sunday 10.30am service, – Youth Rooms	Messy Church , Sun 8 May 3.30pm-5.30pm Centre	Community Youth Engagement Planning Tues 10 May 6pm-7pm Meeting Room
	Connect Seated Exercise Tues 1pm (2pm on Lunch Club days) - Centre	Doulos Youth Leadership Training Mon 9 May 7pm-9pm – Youth & Meeting Rooms	Gems (up to reception) and Trailblazers (Y1-Y6) , during our Sunday 10.30am service – Centre & Meeting Room	Environmental Group Thurs 5 May 10.30am-11.30am Meeting Room and 6pm-7pm Youth Room
	Joyful Craft Thurs 1.30pm-3pm, Centre	Café Church , Tues 17 May 6pm-7.30pm Yarm Costa	Puppet Practice Tues 7pm-9pm – Centre	
	Drop-In Coffee Mornings Mondays 9.30am-11am Youth Room	Refresh , next event is the Refresh Day Festival Saturday 16 July 11am-6pm	Y5 & Y6 Life Group Mon 9 & Mon 23 May 4.15pm-5.15pm Meeting Room	
	Life Shapes Course Tues 3 May 7.30pm Meeting Room	Youth Apprenticeships Sun 15 May during the 10.30am service		

Standing Committee Mon 2 May 7.30pm, Meeting Room. **PCC** Mon 16 May 7.30pm Centre

SERVICES – MAY 2022

SUNDAY 1 MAY

Do we choose our Identity, or is it given to us?

Genesis 25:19-27, 1 Corinthians 12:21-31

9am Morning Worship

1030am Morning Worship

Preacher Matt Levinsohn

SUNDAY 8 MAY

What is a Successful Life?

Proverbs 3:1-18, Matthew 25:14-23

9am Communion

10.30am Communion

Preacher Abby McDaniel

SUNDAY 15 MAY

Is Married With Children The Ideal?

Genesis 2:18-25, Matthew 22:23-33

9am Morning Worship

10.30am Morning Worship

Preacher Sola Adeboye

SUNDAY 22 MAY

Is Happiness A Good Goal

John 10:1-10, Psalm 37:3-7

9am Morning Worship

1030am Morning Worship

Preacher Matt Levinsohn

SUNDAY 29 MAY

What's the Point of Sex?

Song of Songs 2:1-13

Romans 1:18-25

9am Communion

10.30am Communion

Preacher Matt Levinsohn

You can also watch our live-streamed services on our YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/AllSaintsVideo>

www.allsaints-church.net/

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