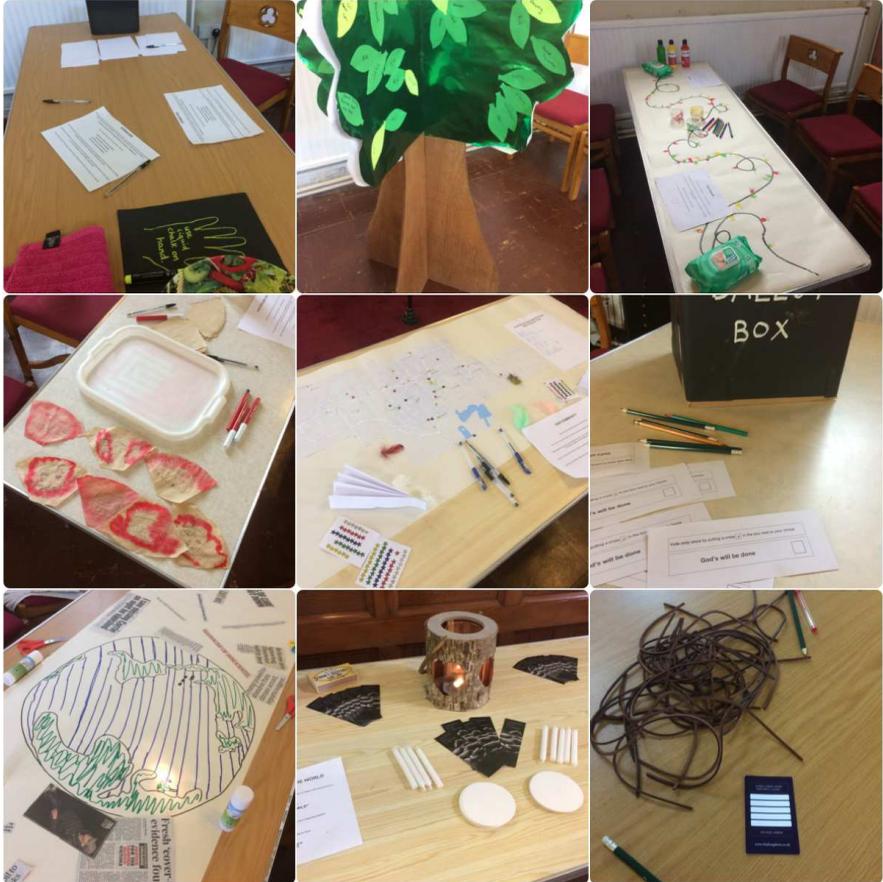


# PARISH OF SOUTHMINSTER MAGAZINE OF THE CHURCH OF ST LEONARD



## JULY 2017

O Lord, you have searched me  
and you know me.

Psalm 139: 1

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*This month's cover picture is a mosaic of all the activities which happened during the week of prayer for "Thy Kingdom Come" See page 18 for full details.*

*Articles for the August magazine by **Sunday 16 July** please, to Kath Dunstan.  
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  
(See inside back cover.)

## Reflections

O Lord, you have searched me and you know me.

Psalm 139: 1

The bright and sunny summer months are upon us and we enjoy the longer evenings, times in the garden, eating al fresco and catching up with some of those outside jobs. It is also a really good time to catch up with friends and appreciate their company again, listen to their news and plans for the coming months. If, like me, you made a decision earlier in the year to be in contact with, and spend more time with, friends of many years, then perhaps this is the time that you have managed to get together and catch up. When we meet together it is only a few moments that lapse, those awkward “hello’s” because you haven’t seen each other for a while and you all feel a tad guilty about it and, once those moments have passed, then the relationship continues: it’s as if no time had passed at all - you just pick up where you left off, and everybody feels more comfortable again and you wonder why it had taken so long to get together. The social media is good these days but it will never replace the moments spent with each other and the depth of conversation that actual meeting enables.

I have a very good friend who lives in California, we went to school together and have known each other a number of years. We speak to one another occasionally on the telephone, or an infrequent email, but it does not replace the face-to-face conversations or simply being in each other’s company. Many of you have long-term friends like that, people you know, and who know you, intimately

and there are no barriers between you; those friendships are valuable and essential to each and every person.

Friendships like the ones described are seen, by me at least, vividly in couples who are wanting to get married. They are friends first, and then before they know it they are in love and sharing every moment with each other, sharing their lives and memories and, most times, telling those hidden secrets to each other: nothing is hidden. A bond of love and a good friendship is cemented in the relationship. We are made to be relational people, to enjoy each other's company and to share our lives with each other; individualism creates isolation and loneliness, whereas companionship and inter-dependence means care and fulfilment of an essential need in everyone. It is in these open and honest relationships that we can relax, be ourselves and unload some of the tensions that life brings to us.

David, the Psalmist, wrote about his relationship with God in honest ways and with requests that many of us feel unable to ask, because we feel that we are somehow unworthy or think that God “would not want to be bothered by my little request” but that is not the way of the true friendships described above and the complete revealing of ourselves to another. God wants to hear all our trivia along with our wants and fears. True friends know when there is something wrong, they discern it in our attitudes, our expression and the tone of conversation, and God **is** a true friend – knowing always when something is not quite right.

The Psalm 139 sums it up: “O Lord, you have searched me and you know me.....You are familiar with all my ways.”

A friendship that will last is a friendship that makes the effort, stays in contact and has regular conversation. Prayer is *our* conversation with God and He misses us when we do not talk to Him: make time to listen to Him. Perhaps, in our few moments in the garden, we might take time to catch up with God and enjoy His company and companionship too!

*Peter*

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## **If you weren't there you really missed out!**

The **Replenish Variety Show** held in Maldon on 10th June was a truly amazing experience. We were wonderfully entertained by soloist singer Jane Gilham followed by the four ladies known as "Just Us". The Maldon Ukelele Band were brilliant and the show closed with popular songs by Julian May and Ernie Lamprell. The conversation (with tea/coffee & cakes) during the interval was great, as was the chance to meet some of the people who are receiving counselling for their current mental health conditions or addictions. Details are available on their website [www.replenishuk.com](http://www.replenishuk.com)

Viv Perry, one of the charity's trustees, has informed us that the concert raised £500 for Replenish and they are grateful for all the support. Please continue to pray for them as they set up more counselling and befriending sessions which are so badly needed.

# The Baby Eagle

I am an Eaglet and I don't feel like getting up today. This nest is so comfy and warm and I feel safe high up here on the treetop with mum and dad feeding me with fish and meat and caring for my every need. They even took turns to stay with my egg until I hatched!



What caring parents I have, but I have a feeling something's going on though as my siblings have all disappeared. I wonder if it's something to do with mum and dad saying it is time now for me to fly, but mum told dad she won't just push me out and leave me. She will fly underneath me with her wings spread out and catch me if I struggle at first and carry me to safety.

Scary stuff this, being on the edge of being independent. One of my biggest worries is catching live prey. I know I have very powerful eyes to spot my prey and can fly with heavy loads but why can't I be like the buzzard and the crow who feed off prey that someone else has killed? Sounds good to me. Let someone else do the hard work and I reap the rewards!

Mum says I am really special and God talks about me in the Bible a lot! God says that those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength and will soar on wings like eagles (Isaiah 40 v 31). Mum says I will have strength and courage in dangerous and turbulent weather, soaring above storm clouds to safety.

In Deuteronomy 32 v 11 it also says that God spreads His wings over Israel, His chosen people, even as an eagle overspreads her young and cares fiercely for them. He carries His people Israel upon His wings too! Wow! God must rate us eagles quite highly, and how He loves all human people too and when they love Him back He teaches them how to fly with Him and He also catches them when they struggle and fall and carries them to safety.



Oh dear, here comes dad; I think it must be time to go. Mum is waiting under the nest and dad is just about to give me a gentle shove over the edge. Oh well here goes.....

**“Geronimo!”**

Brenda Sheppard

## **The Fabric of the Church**

As most of you will be aware, there has been a great deal of work undertaken both inside and outside our church building over the last year or so.

We now have extensive flowerbeds and the churchyard is looking splendid in its spring colours. There has been a good deal of painting throughout the building and there is much more still to be carried out.

You cannot have failed to notice that we have painted the porch gates. We initially painted them to match the original colour; that is light blue / grey. It was then decided to accentuate the crosses within the gates and this was carried out by painting the crosses in a dark blue. It has however come to the church wardens' attention that this is not to everyone's taste.

We would therefore like you all to consider your preferences. Would you like the gates to be left as they are at present or entirely light blue/ grey (the original colour)? You may also have your own colour scheme for us to consider.

Do please let your churchwardens know your feelings.....  
Thank you.

Phil Richards and Paul Lucas

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### **CHRISTIAN AID WEEK**

**Sunday 14 May - Saturday 20 May**

**Thank you for all your money gifts this year.**

**We raised £1,385 in Southminster during the 'week'.**

***Kath Dunstan***



# A RECENT ACCIDENT

Sue Moore

Quite a few people know that I recently fell downstairs at home. John and I were looking for an item that No 1 son had left here. John called from the loft and passed me two empty sweet tins to be thrown away.

As I took them from John the troubles started. The tins slipped, I went forward to grab the tin, missing the top two stairs, and nearly head-butted the gable-end wall. I pushed myself away, twisted to the right, thinking 'I must go to the right and land on the hall floor, just inside the front door'. Well, that was where I landed, after hitting the end of a low open-shelved cupboard that holds our shoes, hitting my head on the top of the same cupboard, breaking the top in two. (I know what you're all thinking.)

I was falling head first and face downward. I did not call out; I did not hit the stairs at all. I floated! I know who helped me, and I have thanked our Lord above in my prayers every day. I have never experienced anything like this, and not been worthy of such assistance.

John called, asking why I threw the tins downstairs.

My answer, "I fell downstairs, and I've hit my head."

"OK" says John "I am coming down slowly."

We still have not found what we were looking for.

**GOD IS GOOD. ALL THE TIME!**





Monday 3rd July  
Bible Seaside

All start at 3.30 pm

Age range aimed especially for children at  
Primary School with Parent or Carer.

It's a family afternoon of fun and messiness.

Next Messy Church  
Monday 11th September

Also this month:

**Holiday Club**

All details are on page 22.

## 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 16th July

September      3      10      17      24

October            1      8      15      22      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



If you would like special flowers on a particular day in memory of someone you have lost please fill in your name on the form at the back of church and be ready to contribute towards the cost. For more details about any of this please contact Kathy Pegg or a churchwarden.

Thank you for your continued financial donations towards the provision of flowers throughout the year so that we can always have some.

Money should be handed to churchwardens or treasurer for this purpose.

**AND DON'T FORGET** the new "Garden Fund" which will provide for the flower-beds in the grounds (as described last month by Fiona Begley).

### PRAY FOR SOUTHMINSTER:

w/b	2 July	Central-South
w/b	9 July	South-South-West
w/b	16 July	North - East
w/b	23 July	Central - North-West
w/b	30 July	Central - East

# ROTA FOR JULY 2017

Date **2 July**

**3rd Sunday after Trinity**

**08.00 Holy Communion (BCP)**

Col: Green

Leader/President/Preacher

Rev'd Peter

Romans 6 : 12 - end

Paul Lucas

Matthew 10 : 40 - end

Celebrant

Sidesman/ Communion Asst.

Paul Lucas

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**10.45 Holy Communion**

Leader/Preacher

Rev'd Peter

Romans 6 : 12 - end

Fiona Begley

Matthew 10 : 40 - end

Fiona Begley

Intercessions

Kath Dunstan

Prayer Ministry Team

Fiona Begley & Tom Fogg

Communion Assistants

Phil Richards & Mike Bikhazi

Projectionist

Christine Lucas

Sidesperson

Gwyneth Iffland

Refreshments

Bob Perry & Viv Perry

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Date **9 July**

**4th Sunday after Trinity**

**08.00 Holy Communion (BCP)**

Col: Green

Leader/President/Preacher

Rev'd Ken Dunstan

Romans 7 : 15 - 25a

Sheila Wright

Matthew 11 : 16 - 19, 25 - end

Celebrant

Sidesman/ Communion Asst.

Paul Lucas

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**10.45 Morning Worship**

Leader/preacher

Norman Pratt

Romans 7 : 15 - 25a

Sylvia Adams

Matthew 11 : 16 - 19, 25 - end

Sylvia Adams

Intercessions

Jenny Pratt

Prayer Ministry Team

Jacky Griffiths & Sylvia Adams

Projectionist

Christine Morgan

Sidesperson

Mike Bikhazi

Refreshments

Linda Payne & Christine Lucas

## ROTA FOR JULY 2017

Date **16 July**

**5th Sunday after Trinity**

### **08.00 Holy Communion (BCP)**

Col: Green

Leader/President/Preacher  
Romans 8 : 1 - 11  
Matthew 13 : 1 - 9, 18 - 23  
Sidesman/ Communion Asst.

Rev'd Peter  
Sheila Nicholson  
Celebrant  
Phil Richards

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### **10.45 Holy Communion**

Leader/Preacher  
Romans 8 : 1 - 11  
Matthew 13 : 1 - 9, 18 - 23  
Intercessions  
Projectionist  
Communion Assistants  
Prayer Ministry  
Sidesperson  
Refreshments

Rev'd Peter  
Kath Dunstan  
Kath Dunstan  
Jacky Griffiths  
Mike Bikhazi  
Paul Lucas & Sylvia Adams  
Christine Lucas & Brenda Sheppard  
Sylvia Adams  
Eira Hagger & Tom Fogg

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Date **23 July**

**6th Sunday after Trinity**

### **08.00 Holy Communion (BCP)**

Col: Green

Leader/President/Preacher  
Romans 8 : 12 - 25  
Matthew 13 : 24 - 30, 36 - 43  
Sidesman/ Communion Asst.

Rev'd Peter  
Kathy Pegg  
Celebrant  
Phil Richards

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### **10.45 Morning Worship**

Leader/Preacher  
Romans 8 : 12 - 25  
Matthew 13 : 24 - 30, 36 - 43  
Intercessions  
Projectionist  
Prayer Ministry  
Sidesperson  
Refreshments

Norman Pratt  
Mike Bikhazi  
Mike Bikhazi  
Fiona Begley  
Sylvia Adams  
Jacky Griffiths & Tom Fogg  
Tom Fogg  
Bob Perry & Viv Perry

## JULY SERVICES AT STEEPLE

Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	9.15 am	Family Worship
Sunday	9 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 am	Holy Communion
Sunday	16 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 am	Morning Prayer
Sunday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	9.15 am	Holy Communion
Sunday	30 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	United Worship at St Leonard's

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Don't forget Rhona's KILIMANJARO Challenge which started on Friday 16 June in aid of MACMILLAN Cancer Care. A full report will be available next month. Please visit [www.justgiving.com/Rhona-Leech1](http://www.justgiving.com/Rhona-Leech1) or use the sponsor form at the back of church to donate. It's not too late!

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### St Leonard's Rota (Continued)

Date **30 July**

**7th Sunday after Trinity**

#### **08.00 Holy Communion**

Col: Green

Leader/President/Preacher	Rev'd Peter
Romans 8 : 26 - end	Phil Richards
Matthew 13 : 31 - 33, 44 - 52	Celebrant
Sidesman/ Communion Asst.	Phil Richards

#### **10.30 United Worship with Holiday Club Presentations** **Children & parents/carers are particularly welcome** **The theme will be "Pyramid Rock" as in Holiday Club**

Leader/Preacher	Rev'd Peter /Jenny Pratt
Intercessions	Jenny Pratt
Projectionist	Norman Pratt
Prayer Ministry	Fiona Begley & Sylvia Adams
Sidesperson	Jacky Griffiths
Refreshments	Sally Culff & Maureen Smith

## REGULAR MIDWEEK ACTIVITIES

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

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

**Bellringers** meet occasionally in the tower.

See Allan Pye for details, since this is not a regular activity.

**Henry Club** - Church Cleaning Team - meets twice a month at 9.30 am (normally on Fridays)

The July dates are Friday 7th and Friday 21st

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

**Working Parties** happen on Saturdays, as required.

**CHURCH GROUNDS WORKING PARTY**  
The next one will be publicised on notice boards.

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

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

**Tuesdays 8:30 am "Just Prayer"**

## YOUTH CHURCH

meets bi-monthly at the Vicarage. See bulletins.

## HOME GROUPS

Normally they are Mondays at 10 am and Thursdays at 7.45 pm for 8 pm

Full details will be published in church bulletins.



Young people and children are always welcome. especially at 10.45 services, and age-appropriate activities are available at the back of church if required.

Messy Church is once a month on Mondays. See page 10  
Next one July 3rd

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



# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## Southminster W.I.

We meet regularly at Southminster Memorial Hall.

July 6th

**Sharon Flowers: How to make a repair or anything from fabric**

*Competition - Home-made Bunting (approx. 1 metre)*

### Memorial Hall

#### Wishing Well Club

**Tuesday 11th July 1pm - 3pm  
and every second Tuesday**

Light lunch, games & good company.

Phone K.S. on 07434915467  
or just turn up.

### The **SOUTHMINSTER HARBOUR** Group

meets in the Memorial Hall  
(main hall, side entrance)

on Thursday mornings  
from 10 am until noon.

Drop in; you are welcome.

Check posters for details of  
special talks/activities

The **Bereavement Group**  
meets there also on the  
1st and 3rd Thursdays  
of each month.

### **THE COMMUNITY LUNCH CLUB**

THE MEMORIAL HALL

Mondays at 12.30 pm

(except Bank Holidays)

2 course meal with  
tea/coffee to follow

£5 per head

Please book by noon  
previous Friday by phoning  
Kath S

on 07434915467

### **QUIZ NIGHT**

**1st July at 7.30 pm**

at the Memorial Hall

Maximum 8 per team

£3 per head

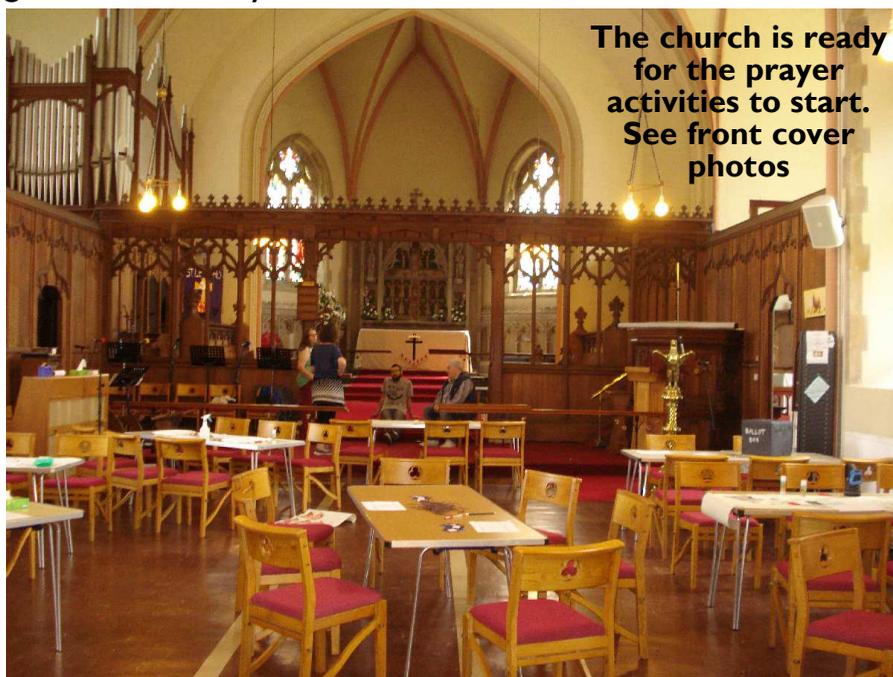
Bring your own drinks &  
nibbles

Tea & scones available

## Thy Kingdom Come

Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement, which invites Christians around the world to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus Christ. The Archbishop of Canterbury encouraged Christians to take part and said: *“Jesus prayed at the Last Supper that we, those who follow him, might ‘be one that the world might believe’. We are invited to make a lasting difference in our nations and in our world, by responding to his call to find a deep unity of purpose in prayer.”*

The hope was that people would be inspired to participate and be catalysts for setting up prayer events in their local area, giving them time and space to come closer to God. The idea was to find fun and creative ways to pray together as a family.



**The church is ready  
for the prayer  
activities to start.  
See front cover  
photos**

At St. Leonard's we decided to open up the church every morning from 29<sup>th</sup> May – 3<sup>rd</sup> June for prayer, with different interactive spaces to help everyone to focus, reflect and be creative in their prayers for people in their lives (e.g. family, friends, community, country, world etc.) A very important start to our prayers, however, was the first area focussing on praying for God's forgiveness and our forgiving others.

The week was well attended with lots of positive feedback. Having the church open meant that many visitors also dropped in over the course of the week, so we were able to build new relationships with people in our community too. Our hope is that this will not be a one off, but that it will be part of the ongoing growth of the prayer life of our church. Praying for others to know Jesus is one of the most powerful things we can do. Persistent prayer for others brings transformation to their lives.

Karen Flack

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## **OUR CHURCH AND OUR COMMUNITY**

### **SOUTHMINSTER FLOWER SHOW**

**Saturday July 15th**

Schedules are available with details of entries & activities. We are hoping to have our normal 'stall' in the Community Tent and we will ensure that the church will be open for visitors to drop in for some 'peace and quiet' on a hectic day.

# **The Bradwell Festival**

will be held at St Peter's Chapel  
on Saturday 1st July and Sunday 2nd July  
**"GATHERING THE FRAGMENTS"**

Bradwell Festival is an opportunity to connect and celebrate with other Christians and take that joy back to our communities.

The Festival returns for a second year in 2017!

It builds on the legacy of the Bradwell Pilgrimage.

Festival-goers can enjoy a variety of worship, bands, speakers, activities, food and drink throughout the day and evening.

Also there will be "Messy Church" activities, involving our own team:  
Jenny Pratt and her helpers.

More details are at <https://www.bradwellfestival.com>

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## **Summer Services at Bradwell St Peter's Chapel**

Each one starts at 6.30 pm

### **Music for the Soul**

*Music flows from heaven to the soul*

July 2nd The Secret Chord with Rev'd Jonathan Evens  
and Café Musica & friends

July 9th Evening Worship with Lynne Creasey (Harp) &  
Harvey Nightingale (Baritone)(Also see page 21)

July 16th Taizé Service

July 23rd Evening Worship with John Glynn  
(singer & songwriter and former RC priest)

July 30th Rev'd Dr Jenny Williams (reflecting on the  
words of the Aramaic Lord's Prayer)



## Events Notices

### **St Peter's Chapel, Bradwell Harp Concert with Afternoon Tea**

Lynne Creasey, Harp & Harvey Nightingale, Baritone

**Sunday July 9th at 3pm**

Admission £15 by ticket only

**Proceeds to Knightswood Day Care Centre**

Please book tickets using the Eventbrite link

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/harp-concert-tickets-31637626994>

or directly through Rev'd Brigid Main

[stpeterschapel@outlook.com](mailto:stpeterschapel@outlook.com) 01621 776438

**"Thank you"** for all the recent support received for the relocation of the **Knightswood Day Care Centre**.

Special Thanks go to Paula & Ken Neall and all their helpers - not forgetting everyone who attended and supported - at the **Coffee Morning at 10 Kings Road on June 13th** when **£431.95** was raised together with **£221.90** from a previous Boot Sale.

We hope that the afternoon concert on 25 June in church will also be financially fruitful.

## **Last Night of the Althorne Proms**

**Saturday 8th July at 7pm**

**at St Andrew's Church, Althorne**

**(in aid of the organ fund)**

**Organ music, Readings, Sing-along, Pimms & Nibbles**

**£7 Tickets Brenda 744912 or Lynda 740481**

# Holiday Club 2017



Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July, 10am-12.30  
plus Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> July, 10.30am  
for children from Reception up to and including  
Year 6 in this term who live or attend school in  
Southminster and Steeple.

This year it is called Pyramid Rock  
and is fast moving and lots of fun with games,  
quizzes, crafts, zany presenters, music, Bible  
stories and drama.

Every day we will see how God was with  
Joseph even when he got into trouble through  
no fault of his own.

Registration forms will be in Southminster  
School shortly or it can be downloaded from  
St Leonard's Church website:  
[www.stleonardsouthminster.org.uk](http://www.stleonardsouthminster.org.uk)

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All future dates, birthdays and notices to be included in the  
weekly Bulletin should be sent to Christine Morgan,

## WHO'S WHO

Vicar	Rev'd Peter Begley	772300
	The Vicarage, Burnham Road	
Licensed Reader	Mr Norman Pratt	
Pastoral Assistant	Mrs Linda Payne	
Pastoral Assistant (& i/c Magazine distribution)	Mrs Brenda Sheppard	
Evangelism Enabler (Children's Work Co-ordinator and Child Protection Rep.)	Mrs Jacky Griffiths	
Young People's Work	Mrs Jenny Pratt	
Churchwarden	Mr Phil Richards	
Churchwarden (& Transport to services)	Mr Paul Lucas	
PCC Secretary	Mrs Sylvia Adams	
PCC Treasurer	Mr Michael Bikhazi	
Deputy Churchwarden	Mr Dick Dulude	
Deputy Churchwarden	Mr Pete Adams	
Music Co-ordinator	Mrs Hazel Richards	
'Henry' Club (& church bookings)	Mrs Jacky Griffiths	
Electoral Roll Officer	Mrs Gwyneth Iffland	
Lending Library	Mrs Christine Lucas	
Bookstall Payments (& Bible Reading notes)	Ms Sarah Prendergast	
Magazine Editor (& Community Liaison)	Mrs Kath Dunstan	
Bellringing: Tower Captain	Mr Allan Pye	

## 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](http://www.stleonardsouthminster.org.uk)

**Contact:** [vicar@stleonardsouthminster.org.uk](mailto:vicar@stleonardsouthminster.org.uk)

**Sunday Services** - normal pattern

**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 the communion service or after the Morning Worship.)

Light refreshments are served after the 10.45 services.

**Children and Young people** are always welcomed (*See page 15*)



**MESSY CHURCH** is held monthly on Mondays at 3.30 pm in church. The next one will be on **Monday 3rd July (See page 10)**

**Children's Holiday Club** will be in church every morning from **Monday 24th to Friday 28th (See page 22)**

**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

**THIS MONTH at St Leonard's**

**Our Sunday services follow their normal pattern, but the 30th July service will be at 10.30 since it is a United Service and will have Holiday Club presentations and celebrations.**

**Everyone is welcome at all our services.**

**See page 22 for details about Holiday Club**

**United Service for the Elderly** at 4pm - Thursday 20th July. at **Southminster Residential Home**

and at **Squeaks House** (contact Norman Pratt or Jacky Griffiths) on Wednesday 12th July at 3.30pm

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