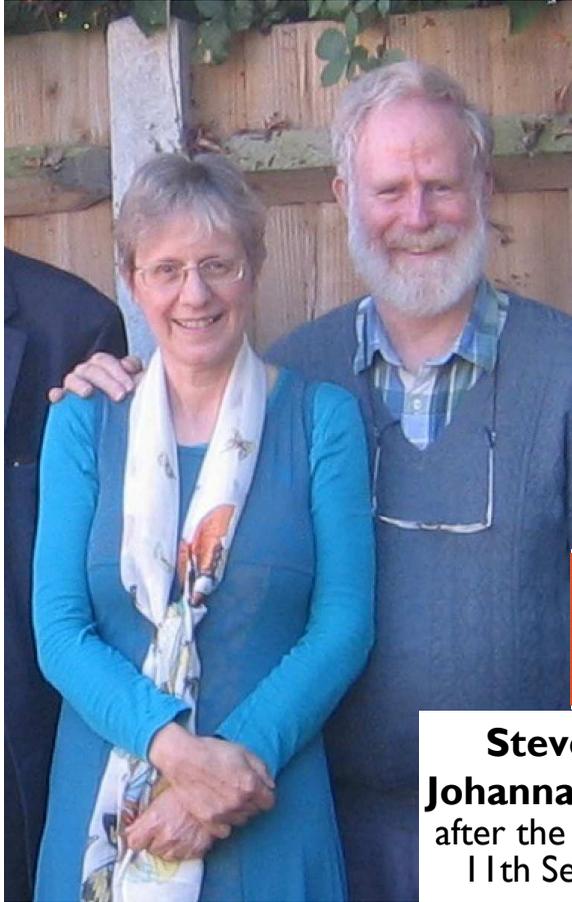


**PARISH OF SOUTHMINSTER
MAGAZINE OF THE
CHURCH OF ST LEONARD**



**Steve and
Johanna Pillinger**
after the service on
11th September

OCTOBER 2016

The unfolding of Your words gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple.

Psalm 119 verse 130

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CLOCKS CHANGE 30 OCT

*Articles for the November magazine by **Sunday**
16 October, please, to Kath Dunstan.
New contributors will be welcome.*

Your magazine costs 30p.
Please pay in church.
**Or pay in advance if your
magazine is delivered to you.**
Details from
Brenda Sheppard
(See inside back cover.)

Reflections

*The unfolding of Your words gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple.*

It was wonderful to receive Steve and Johanna Pillinger at St. Leonard's church on Sunday 11th September, to hear their story and catch up with the family news. For those who do not know, Steve and Johanna are Bible translators who operate in South Africa enabling local people to receive a Bible written in their own language – their 'heart' language. We saw in a presentation the sheer delight on the faces of the people in remote villages as they received their own Bible – a joy to have their own book!

It made me think of how we take things for granted sometimes, without appreciating who or what is being given. I often despair because I cannot lay my hands on the book I want immediately, I have so many on the shelves in my study. Or perhaps when I read my Bible; is it a daily routine or is it a delight that I am able to read scripture in my own language; and how do I value the words that are read – are they just words or are they God's word?

Or perhaps someone has served me well in a shop, and I turn and walk away without even a smile. Have I acknowledged the effort that has been made on my behalf? The times that I have commented to an assistant on the kind way in which I have been served, the assistant usually smiles and shows a genuine joy that they have been acknowledged for the service they have given. It makes my day to be able to give positive comment and makes their day because someone has noticed.



I am sure that you also have examples of the times that you have been thanked and appreciated – how those words can change our day.

The Bible is full of encouraging words to help us through the day; it is one of God’s ways to communicate His love and to help us have a good day set in the right perspective. We discover that we are sought after, watched over, wanted and needed. As we read the Bible, God feeds us and gives us words of hope to hang on to when times are tough, and shows His love for us in the way that Jesus cared for all those that chose to come to Him.

The theologian Karl Barth wrote volumes of papers and books. One of his volumes called ‘Dogmatics’, 9000 pages of theology, was summed up by Barth in an interview with these simple words:

“Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.”

Steve and Johanna have many years of experience in seeing how the Bible can transform lives and give people hope in difficult circumstances. They have seen the joy on many, *many* faces as they open their own Bibles to start reading for themselves, for the very first time, of God’s love for them.

We sometimes take the Bible for granted, reading it without allowing the words to encourage us and give us the revelation of all that God wants to give to us, and how, through His words to us, He can change our day.

Bible Sunday is 23rd October, why not bring your Bible to church to give God thanks that we are able to have something of such great worth.

Peter

Our Vicar writes some more....

Dear All,

During September and October we have the opportunity to have a preaching series at St. Leonard's. It will be a six week themed study bringing our attention to how we live as Christian people in today's context. We often hear about Biblical context but how do we put those thoughts into practice in 2016? The series is titled "Living Distinctively" and the six studies begin with; 'Our identity' followed by 'Possessions', 'The Power of the Tongue', 'Truth and Honesty', 'Forgiveness (Unity and Love)', and 'Obedience (and Following)'.

These six themes will look at specific Bible passages, so please look at the readings set for the day in the magazine, and bring your bibles (and perhaps a note book). It is hoped that we will discover many ways in which we will be able to talk to our friends and neighbours through the way that we conduct ourselves as well as in conversation.

Our Mission Statement says we aim "To be a people offering praise and worship to God and serving Him by being the good news by our words and actions" which seems to me to be closely aligned with the words of St. Francis of Assisi

"Preach the gospel, and if necessary, use words"

I trust that we will all benefit in learning over the next few weeks as we study together.

Blessings

Peter

Just a taste of the Art Exhibition on 17-18 September



The church was filled with lovely pictures from several local artists including our school children. There was also woodwork, fabric work, photography, painted glass sun-catchers, flowers and some amazing beadwork by Jenny Pratt, a small part of which is here below. Ploughman's lunches and cream teas were appreciated too.



Answered Prayer

A personal testimony

About 6 weeks ago I was in terrible pain with my shoulder and left arm.

I couldn't sleep with the pain and even ended up in Hospital for 3 days where I was given Morphine and even that didn't help. Then about 3 weeks in total agony I thought I would try having prayers said for me.

This I did, and on the Monday the pain had lessened a little but incredibly I woke up Tuesday with no pain whatsoever. It was incredible as I'd had the pain for over 6 weeks with no one knowing what it was, apart from God, and I truly believe I was cured because of the prayers that were read over me.

God bless

Danny Thomas

We're all rejoicing
at this

HARVEST TIME

so after the 10.45 service on

Sunday 16th October

there will be a

BRING & SHARE LUNCH

in church.

This will give us an opportunity
to share with one another
the abundance of God's provision.

MENTALLY CHALLENGED

Recently St. Leonard's had a visit from Steve and Johanna Pillinger who are based in South Africa and work as part of Wycliffe Bible Translators. As a church we have supported them in prayer and financially for many years and we receive regular updates by email and visits when they can. Steve and Johanna shared with us how they came to be involved in this type of work and one of the underlying reasons was their love of languages which has been crucial. Steve is at present learning Greek!

Johanna shared that before being involved with Wycliffe she worked with children who were mentally challenged, we tend to use the term learning difficulties. We wondered how this experience helped her in her present work as it seemed such a different field of expertise. On chatting we saw that it dovetailed in. Steve and Johanna often work with people with much different cultures to ours and they have to learn to firstly understand and see things from another's perspective and learn how to translate the Bible into a language they understand as we too have to learn to understand peoples living and learning capabilities.



Some groups of people they translate for are illiterate so alongside the written word they provide audio facilities which are greatly used and appreciated as it is the first time some have heard the Word of God in their own language!

I was thinking how we are all mentally challenged. I worked for and gained a Certificate in teaching Basic Skills in the year 2000 and on completion worked at the Friary in Maldon for a year as an assistant tutor for people with learning difficulties. This involved mainly writing and spelling and simplifying text which involved looking a piece of writing and simplifying the words that were difficult to read or understand. One time I helped with a poetry class and a gentleman of 70 years old who had just learned to read wanted help to write a poem which he entitled "Grasshopper Green". He was asked to read it out at the end of term but was too shy so I read it for him which was a very moving experience.



There is never a 'One size fits all' in many walks of life. I have been mentally challenged many a time and often have to ask for help in understanding and I do thank God for the internet at times to look things up!



Just as Steve and Johanna translate the Gospel (The Good News of Jesus) so many can read and understand in their own language, let us too be aware of each other and not be afraid to confess if we find parts of the Bible difficult because we too need to read it with the help of others to translate and enrich our understanding.

Brenda Sheppard



Monday 3rd October

"I am the Vine"

Starts 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.

The next one is

Monday 7th November

"I am the Good Shepherd"

More details are in church.

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 October

December 4 11 18 24 25

January 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 to be involved with the providing and/or arranging of flowers in church during the year - especially at the major festivals - please contact the churchwardens who will advise you. There is a rota which has been produced in conjunction with the Dengie Hundred Flower Club which will ensure that there are 'altar flowers' every week. Speak with Kathy Pegg if you need further information.



Your financial donations to the Flower Fund would be appreciated in order to maintain this regularly and/or to cover the flower costs for your specific personal occasion. Please speak with one of the churchwardens or the PCC treasurer to arrange this.

PRAY FOR SOUTHMINSTER:

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

ROTA FOR OCTOBER 2016

Date **2 October** "Living Distinctively" theme : **3**
08.00 Holy Communion (BCP) Col: Green
Leader/President/Preacher Rev'd Peter
Genesis 1 : 24-28 Dick Dulude
James 3: 1-12 Celebrant
Sidesman/ Communion Asst. Phil Richards

10.45 Holy Communion
Leader/Preacher Rev'd Peter
Genesis 1 : 24-28 Sylvia Adams
James 3: 1-12 Sylvia Adams
Intercessions Fiona Begley
Communion Assistants Phil Richards & Sylvia Adams
Prayer Ministry Team Brenda Sheppard & Fiona Begley
Projectionist Mike Bikhazi
Sidesperson Gwyneth Iffland
Refreshments Tom Fogg & Sally Culff

Date **9 October** "Living Distinctively" theme : **4**
08.00 Holy Communion (BCP) Col: Green
Leader/President/Preacher Rev'd Ken Dunstan
Ephesians 4 : 25 - 32 Sheila Wright
John 4 : 1- 24 Celebrant
Sidesman/ Communion Asst. Phil Richards

10.45 Morning Worship
Leader/preacher Norman Pratt
Ephesians 4 : 25 - 32 Mike Bikhazi
John 4 : 1- 24 Mike Bikhazi
Intercessions Jacky Griffiths
Prayer Ministry Team Tom Fogg & Viv Perry
Projectionist Christine Morgan
Sidesperson Jacky Griffiths
Refreshments Margaret Curtis & Eira Hagger

ROTA FOR OCTOBER 2016

Date **16 October** "Living Distinctively" theme : **5**
08.00 Holy Communion (BCP) Col: Green

Leader/President/Preacher	Rev'd Peter
Philippians 2 : 1 - 11	Sheila Nicholson
Matthew 6 : 5 - 15	Celebrant
Sidesman/ Communion Asst.	Phil Richards

10.45 Holy Communion with Harvest Thanksgiving

Leader/President/Preacher	Rev'd Ken Dunstan
Philippians 2 : 1 - 11	Linda Payne
Matthew 6 : 5 - 15	Linda Payne
Intercessions	Kath Dunstan
Communion Assistants	Phil Richards & Mike Bikhazi
Prayer Ministry Team	Fiona Begley & Jacky Griffiths
Projectionist	Sylvia Adams
Sidesperson	Lynda Hedges
Refreshments	Bob Perry & Viv Perry

then a **BRING & SHARE HARVEST LUNCH** in church

Date **23 October** "Living Distinctively" theme : **6**
08.00 Holy Communion (BCP) Col: Green

Leader/President/Preacher	Rev'd Peter
Titus 3 : 1 - 11	Kathy Pegg
Matthew 21 : 28 - 32	Celebrant
Sidesman/ Communion Asst.	Paul Lucas

10.45 Morning Worship

Leader/Preacher	Rev'd Peter
Titus 3 : 1 - 11	Kath Dunstan
Matthew 21 : 28 - 32	Kath Dunstan
Intercessions	Jenny Pratt
Prayer Ministry Team	Sylvia Adams & Jacky Griffiths
Projectionist	Christine Lucas
Sidesperson	Tom Fogg
Refreshments	Paul Lucas & Christine Lucas

OCTOBER SERVICES AT STEEPLE

Sunday	2 nd	9.15 am	Family Service
Sunday	9 th	9.15 am	Holy Communion
Sunday	16 th	9.15 am	Morning Prayer
Sunday	23 rd	9.15 am	Holy Communion
Sunday	30 th	10.30 am	United Service at Steeple

HARVEST CELEBRATIONS

The Steeple Harvest Festival

will be celebrated on

Sunday 2nd October at 4 pm

followed at 5.30 pm by

Harvest Supper in the Village Hall

Tickets for the Supper £5 single, £15 family

Pay on the night.

Bring your own drinks.

Date **Sunday 30 October**

All Saints Day

08.00 Holy Communion(BCP)

Col: White

Leader/President/Preacher

Rev'd Peter

Ephesians 1 : 11 - end

Warden

Luke 6 : 20 - 31

Celebrant

Sidesman/ Communion Asst.

Warden

**BRITISH
SUMMER
TIME
ENDS**

10.30 United Morning Worship at Steeple

**We shall join our brothers & sisters from Steeple Church
and welcome those from ChristChurch too.**

Leader/Preacher

Rev'd Peter & Rev'd Jon Morgan

Other duties are to be arranged.

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 October dates are Fridays 7th & 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.

See Paul Lucas or Phil Richards for details of next one.

★ **CHURCH GROUNDS WORKING PARTY** ★

As many helpers as possible will be welcomed.

Appropriate refreshments will be available.

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

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

Tuesdays 8:30 am "Just Prayer"

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 October 3rd

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

What's On in the Local Area: October 2016

Arrangements in St Nicholas, Tillingham

Sunday 2nd 10.00 am Harvest Festival & Holy Communion
(Rev. Canon John Brown)

Wednesday 5th 9.15 am Morning Prayers (Laity)

Sunday 9th 10.00 am Sunday Morning Worship (Laity)

Wednesday 12th 9.15 am Morning Prayers (Laity)

Sunday 16th 10.00 am Sunday Morning Worship (Laity)

Wednesday 19th 9.15 am Morning Prayers (Laity)

Sunday 23rd 10.00 am Sunday Morning Worship (Laity)

Wednesday 26th 9.15 am Morning Prayers (Laity)

Sunday 30th 10.00 am United Communion Service with St James,
St Thomas & St Lawrence Father Stan Swift
Tea and Coffee afterwards in the Village Hall

Services for St James, Dengie

October 2nd : Harvest Thanksgiving & Animal Service 3 pm
Rev. Paul Haworth

October 9th : 'In aid of Macmillan' Short Service at 3 pm
Tea & Cake at Village Hall at 3.30 pm

October 16th : No Service.

October 23rd : Evensong : 3 pm Laity

October 30th : Joint Communion Service 10 am
Father Stanley Swift

*All are
welcome at
all these
services.*

COMMUNITY EVENTS: Past and future

Southminster W.I.

Tuesday 4th October

Steve Benson - The Life of Charles Dickens

*Competition - Most words 4 or more letters from
GREAT EXPECTATIONS*

THE COMMUNITY LUNCH CLUB

Mondays at 12.30 pm in
THE MEMORIAL HALL

Book by noon previous Friday

01621 927669

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.



Opening Hours

Mon - Sat 10 am - 1 pm
ALSO Mon, Wed. &
Thurs. 1 pm - 4 pm

The
Bereavement Group

meets monthly
on 1st & 3rd Thursdays at 11am

See the café window for special events.

Memorial Hall Quiz Night 1st October 7.30 pm

Maximum no 8 people per team
Entry £3 per person

Bring Your Own drinks &
nibbles

Tea and scones available for sale

MEMORIAL HALL FORTNIGHTLY BINGO CHECK DATES ON POSTERS in case of change

Wednesdays 5th and 19th October at 8.00 pm

Bring your own drinks and nibbles.

Tea / coffee and scone will be available for £1.

Entry (+ 1 book) £3. Further books @ 50p each

If you ask a question, can you take the answer?

Harry Payne

I have often been asked about my involvement with the Anti Slavery movement. I have to say it is not an easy question to answer. Sometimes I feel I should begin my answer with a question, that being, 'well what is your understanding of the world of Slavery'? This approach is not because I do not want to answer the question, nor that I do not have an answer, it is more along the lines of, where do I start? The subject is really that broad. Broader I would venture, than the average enquirer can possibly imagine. This suggests the best place to start, would be where the understanding of the enquirer begins. Let me explain, often the thought of slavery triggers images similar to that portrayed in the popular (at the time) TV series 'Roots', or more recently the award winning film 'Twelve Years A Slave'. A story based upon the exploitation of the Negro free man Solomon Northup. The down side of this perception, and similar, shows slavery as it was, at a point in history. What we are dealing with however, is not history, for in a sense that has gone. Modern Day Slavery is another thing altogether, it is a growing social and humanitarian problem, a catastrophe even. Briefly, historical slavery is shown as concentrating mainly in the American South cotton plantations, this is really too much of a generalisation. They needed strong fit men, and at harvest nimble fingers. Typically, female slaves were in use in domestic situations, males were put to work in fields etc. At times of harvest all hands were used, children included. But consider this, slaves were relatively expensive to acquire and maintain. As such they became an investment which the plantation owners would have expect and demand monetary returns on. Yes they drove their slaves, but they had to keep them fed and fit to enable them to be driven.

Fast forward to what we are looking at today and the major difference is the methods used to control slaves, violence, drugs, intimidation, debt. Children too are victims in numbers never seen before. Possibly the biggest change is, nowadays the majority of slaves are female. This follows a change in what slaves are being

used for. Slaves sadly are plentiful and cheap, they are easy to come by, and equally easy to dispose of. When we look at the size of the problem, the number of slaves in the world is reckoned to be in excess of 46 million people (remember, a slave is a person like you or me). This figure is generally agreed upon and is provided by an NGO called Walk Free. The Global Slavery Index compiled by Walk Free, is the result of extensive research into people who are categorised slaves, their global distribution, and interestingly, what countries are doing to combat Slavery. This figure compares unfavourably with history, which is now being declared as an 'unacceptable episode in human history'! The official statement is, around 12 million people were transported from Africa to the Americas but over a four hundred year period.

So back to the questions I would like to ask of my enquirers, 'Which type of slavery is it you wish to know about?' Is it The Chocolate Slavery found mainly in the Ivory Coast. Is it the slaves to be found in the Brick Fields in India and Pakistan. Is it the families that are enslaved on Rubber Plantations. Is it the Charcoal Slaves of Brazil. The Children found on Lake Volta in Ghana. Could it be the young girls being forced into Child Marriage by the millions. Or might it be the thousands of children being taken out of Nepal annually into India for all kinds of slave activities. Could it be the juveniles used in illicit mining operations for rare earths and minerals. Would you be wishing to speak about the child slaves that are forced into organised begging, pick-pocketing gangs in every city in the world including London. You wouldn't want to talk about the children trapped in the sex trade. The infants that get used on pornographic movies all over the world. Or the twisted individuals whose depraved demands provide and fund this market. Or the juveniles forced into prostitution. The domestic help slavery market is large and difficult to prove but goes on. But we could perhaps talk about the sweat shops. Their products can help to destabilise an economy, increase the number of vulnerable people ripe for enslaving. It is possible we could get to talk about how and why the demand for slaves is outstripped by supply. We could even talk about why so

very little appears to be being done about ending slavery throughout the world. Or, if it is unlawful, why are there so few prosecutions?

Now did you ask me about my involvement in the anti-slavery movement?

**Steeple Dengie Hundred
History Evening**

from the last 100 years
at Steeple Village Hall

Friday 21st October at 7.30 pm

presented by Postcard Historian, Michael Head

Admission £5 (includes refreshments)

Funds in aid of Steeple Village Hall

What's on in our wider area

PHOTOGRAPHS

OLD AND NEW

of **ALTHORNE**

and also of **Latchingdon and Mayland**

Saturday 22nd October

10 am - 4 pm

St Andrews Church Hall, Althorne

Admission £2

Proceeds in aid of Essex Air Ambulance

Refreshments available

EVENTS COMING UP IN CHURCH

Have your diaries ready! More details next month.

Sunday 6th November

ST LEONARD'S DAY

special Gift Day service at 10.45 am

and

MEMORIAL SERVICE at 4 pm

(remembering lost loved ones)

Saturday 12th November at 7 pm

QUIZ NIGHT with FISH & CHIP SUPPER

Sunday 13th November

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE

Sunday 20th November

SHOEBOX SERVICE

Southminster W.I.

invite all Southminster Senior Citizens to a free

SILVER SUNDAY TEA PARTY

in the Memorial Hall

Sunday 2nd October from 3pm to 5pm

**Tea, Sandwiches, Cakes, Scones
and Entertainment**

To book phone Paula 773243 or Sylvia 772178

Supported by Southminster Parish Council and funded by
the Henry Ayletts Trust Fund

THE ALPHA COURSE

**explore the
meaning of life!**



Alpha for the Autumn

A new course in the Vicarage started
on 15th September
and continues to cover 10 consecutive
Thursday evenings.

The evening starts with a meal together
followed by a short talk and discussion in a
small group.

No experience necessary, come as you are
and get to know others while learning about
the Christian faith.

6.30 p.m. in the Vicarage

We look forward to seeing you there!

It's not too late to join the group.

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

Contact: 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 October

Midweek Prayer times (Mon., Wed. and Fri.)

8:00 am (about half an hour) in the chapel and **Tuesdays at 8.30 am** (Just Prayer)

THIS MONTH at St Leonard's

Sunday services follow our normal pattern. (*See pp 12-13*)

Sunday 16th 10.45 Holy Communion and Harvest Thanksgiving Service followed by a Bring & Share Lunch

Contact Social Committee about what you might bring.

United Services for the Elderly at 4pm - Thursday 20th Oct. at **Southminster Residential Home** Contact Rupert Killick

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

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