



Inspire

September 2019

Dear friends,

'For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven'
Ecclesiastes 3:1

I hope you have had a good summer and found time to relax and rest and be refreshed. Holiday time is also a good time to reflect, a chance to get off the treadmill for a little while and be recharged. It's an opportunity to take stock of our lives, what we are doing, where we are going, to think again about what is important in life. It gives us space to consider our relationship with God, are we spending enough quality time with Him, are we doing what He wants of us, what new things might He be calling us too?

Of all the things we might have thought about – our relationship with God is the most important, the rest will follow and fall into place. I am reminded of Genesis 3:8 when Adam and Eve 'heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze'. The picture it paints for me is one of intimacy and friendship, being comfortable in each other's presence and enjoying being together

So how can we improve our relationship with God?

Firstly, give Him **time**.

Relationships take time and energy. If we want to spend time with someone, we make time. Give it priority. We need to spend time daily with our heavenly Father, not just talking to Him in prayer but letting Him to speak to us through reading the Bible and in being still so we can hear His voice. *"Be still, and know that I am God!" Psalm 46:10*



Secondly, give Him **quality time**. We need to ensure that our time with God is not just squeezed into the odd moment we haven't anything better to do but that we set aside quality time, when we are at our best and able to engage and concentrate. We need to give God our best time.

Thirdly, give Him **extended time**. Just as we have timeout with family and friends to relax and enjoy each other's company in a different setting, so we need to carve out that extended time with God. To walk with Him, talk with Him, just be with Him.

For me this can take the form of a Retreat Day, often at Pleshey. Sometimes a formal, lead Retreat Day but other times I just go and enjoy the solitude and space for myself. It might be attending a conference or festival with an opportunity for more in-depth teaching. I find serving on a camp physically exhausting but spiritually refreshing to be where God is at work. You need to find what works for you, but Phil and I would be happy to help you explore options.

As the days start to shorten and a new term begins, as we pick up the routine of life again, let's not forget those summer thoughts and make sure we make some of the changes we intended. Most of all let's commit to spending time with God the Father, the Creator and Sustainer of the universe, God the Son, the Saviour of the world and God the Holy Spirit, the very Breath of God.

Revd Sue Finch
Associate Minister

Parentalk – The Primary Years

Parentalk

THE PRIMARY YEARS

Being a parent is one of life's greatest joys, but it is also one of its biggest challenges. There's hardly a mum or dad on the face of the earth who, at times, is not overawed by the task of parenting. At Care for the Family we know that mums and dads can feel under tremendous pressure to be the 'perfect parent', and because of this they can often end up feeling guilty. That's why we've created Parentalk.

Parentalk is a DVD-based resource for small groups which covers topics that affect every family with children in the early years through to the early teens. As you go through each session you will be able to talk to other parents in your group about the day-to-day challenges that you face, as well as the things that are going well. We hope you'll discover that you're not on your own in some of the challenges that you face – other parents are in the same boat! And we hope you'll realise that you're already a fantastic mum or dad. Most of all, we hope you'll be reminded that while being a parent has its fair share of difficulties at times, it is also one of the greatest jobs in the world!

The course is free of charge with a crèche provided and will begin on **Tuesday 10th September at 10.30am** in Church.

A sign-up sheet is now available at the back of church or in the Church Office.

For more information please speak to Kirsty Houghton or Sue Finch.

Mission Focus Spot – Mid Africa Concern (MAC)

On **Sunday 8th September** the Mission Focus spot will be taken by the MAC group. We are very pleased that Church Mission Society (CMS) Mission Partner, Ann Moore, will be joining us.

Ann has been serving at Kisiizi Hospital in south west Uganda for more than 20 years and has returned to the UK this summer to retire.

MAC parcels have been sent to Ann, for the hospital, over her long service there.



She will explain more about her work as Senior Nurse in the Special Care Baby Unit and her teaching of student nurses in the School of Nursing.

Do come along to find out more!

Potter's Village have asked for donations to include the following lightweight gifts for their staff for Christmas:

Costume jewellery – necklaces, earrings, headscarfs, light weight summer handbags, smelly soap, sandals / flip flops, purses, Eau de toilette, Lavender water etc.

For the men, small – medium sized shirts or T-shirts (women as well).

Please bring lightweight gifts for Christmas to our MAC pack on **Monday 3rd September** and / or **Monday 7th October 10.00am** in Bell St Hall so that they can be received at Potters in time for Christmas.



Kagando hospital have an ongoing request for girls and ladies underwear, cool cotton skirts with elasticated waists.

Please contact Kari Speed-Andrews on 01245 225969 for further information. Thank you.

Tiny Church

Tiny Church

From September, Tiny Church which is aimed at preschool children and their families will be moving to every 2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoon.

We have mums, grandparents, nannies and friends all bringing the children along and it is wonderful to be able to help families worship God in a simple way which is accessible to them.

Our first meeting of the Autumn term will be **Wednesday 11th September 1.45pm – 2.45pm** in the Church Centre.

If you have preschool children and would like to come, you will be most welcome – just turn up – you will receive a very warm welcome.

If you want to know more then please speak to: Sue Finch (473143) or Kirsty Houghton (475724). We look forward to seeing you there ☺

Decorating the Church for Harvest

'Count seven full weeks from the day after the Sabbath on which you bring your sheaf of grain to present to the LORD

Or if it is easier, bring some flowers and foliage and help decorate the Church on **Saturday 21st September**. St Mary's Flower Group will be there from **2.00pm** and would welcome helpers – no experience necessary.



Donations of flowers, seed heads, grasses and leaves are very welcome, especially in fiery autumn colours of red, orange and yellow. (You don't need to help arrange them if that doesn't appeal to you.)

Family Harvest Service

Sunday 22nd September at 10.00am

Once again, St Mary's are joining with other churches in Chelmsford in giving our harvest gifts to the Chelmsford branch of the UK Foodbank network in partnership with the Trussell Trust, a Christian charity.



A shopping list of items that we will be collecting will shortly be available at the back of Church, near the toilets.

'Let there be Light' – the Musical



Saturday 14th September

Cramphorn Theatre

Performances: 2.00pm and 7.00pm

Our youth group (Wing and a Prayer Youth Theatre) are back home in Chelmsford showing their exciting new musical at the Cramphorn Theatre with performances at 2.00pm and 7.00pm.

With a live band, effects and an energetic young cast, this fun and dramatic production promises a roller-coaster ride, re-imagining the gospel story of "Creation, temptation and Jesus – the sensation!"

Come and experience a musical journey packed with catchy songs, telling a timeless tale of surprise and hope.

Read more at: www.stmarysgreatbaddow.org.uk/light

Tickets: £10, concessions £7, are available only from Civic Box Office on 01245 606505 or online at: www.chelmsford.gov.uk/theatres
(A £1.50 booking fee will be applicable to each transaction if you book online).

Breakfast & Bibles



Breakfast & Bibles

**Restarts: Monday 16th September
in Bell St Hall**

A very informal group for women, meeting to share breakfast together and study the Bible.

Children are very welcome and lots of toys are available to share.
No previous Bible knowledge necessary.

We look forward to welcoming you!

**Please ring Dot for further
information on: 07971 808170**

Ride and Stride



Saturday 14th September

“Ride and Stride” is an event in aid of Friends of Essex Churches which involves walking or cycling to as many Churches as possible in Essex on a sponsored basis.

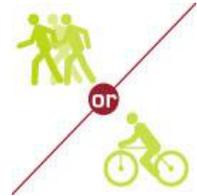
Half of the funds raised by members of our Church come back to St Mary’s to pay for repairs and maintenance. The other half goes to the Friends to help other Churches in Essex.

It doesn’t matter how many Churches you visit as long as you get plenty of sponsorship money!

Stephen Foakes will have sponsorship forms available and is very happy to answer any questions about the event.

Contact Stephen on:

Tel: 01245 603292 Email: Stephen_foakes@btinternet.com



Date for your Diary:

Moving Forward in Christian Healing Ministry

Saturday 26th October 2019

9.45am registration 9.45am start 2.30pm finish

Speaker: Revd Lucyann Ashdown, Chair of the Trustees, Guild of Health & St Raphael

Venue: Meadgate Church, The Orchards

Details and booking form from Geoff Clarke.

Email: Geoff.echt@hotmail.com essexhealing@aol.com

Church Diary for September 2019

Sunday 1 st September – The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity		
	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10:00am	Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Meditative Service
Tuesday 3 rd	9.30am	Meditation Group re-starts in Prayer Chapel
	2.00pm	Funeral of Edna Mulberry in Church
Wednesday 4 th	10:00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Coffee Pot in Bell Street Hall
Thursday 5 th	10.00am	Café Club in Church
	11.30am	Church open until 2.00pm
Friday 6 th	11.00am	Church Open until 2.00pm
	7.30pm	Bellringing in church

Sunday 8th September – The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Morning Praise with Focus Spot on MAC and Commissioning of children's ministry
	6.30pm	Encounter... with Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Pathfinders re-starts in Bell St Hall
Monday 9 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer re-starts in Prayer Chapel
	10.00am	MAC pack in Bell St Hall
	7:00pm	Prayer meeting re-starts for the church and the world
	8.00pm	PCC meeting in Bell St Hall
Tuesday 10 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9.30am	Meditation Group in Prayer Chapel
	10.30am	Parentalk course starts in Church
Wednesday 11 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10:00am	Holy Communion
	10:00am	Coffee Pot in Bell Street Hall
	1.45pm	Tiny Church re-starts fortnightly in Church Centre
	7.30pm	Crossfire re-starts meeting at Ben & Nicki's
Thursday 12 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	11.30am	Church open until 2.00pm
	7.30pm	Wedding rehearsal in church
Friday 13 th	11:30am	Church open until 2.00pm
	7.45pm	Choir practice in Church
Saturday 14 th	10.00am	Ride and Stride event
	1.00pm	Wedding of Matthew Pigram and Amber Hale

Sunday 15th September – The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Holy Communion & Powerhouse
	6.30pm	Encounter...
	6.30pm	Pathfinders meet in Bell St Hall
Monday 16 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9.00am	Breakfast & Bibles meet in Bell St Hall
	7:00pm	Prayer meeting for the church and the world
Tuesday 17 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9.30am	Meditation Group in Prayer Chapel
	10.30am	Parentalk course in Church
	7.30pm	Book Club in Church
Wednesday 18 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10:00am	Holy Communion
	10:00am	Coffee Pot in Bell Street Hall
	7.30pm	Crossfire meet at Ben & Nicki's
Thursday 19 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10.00am	Café Club in Church
	11:30am	Church Open until 2:00pm

Friday 20 th	11:30am	Church open until 2.00pm
Saturday 21 st	11.00am	Wedding of David Ponter & Emma Phillips
	2.00pm	Decorating the Church for Harvest
Sunday 22nd September – The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity		
	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Family Harvest Festival Service
	6.30pm	Encounter... with Holy Communion
Monday 23 rd	8.30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9.30am	Breakfast & Bibles meet in Bell St Hall
	7:00pm	Prayer meeting for the church and the world
Tuesday 24 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9.30am	Meditation Group in Prayer Chapel
	10.30am	Parentalk course in Church
Wednesday 25 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10:00am	Holy Communion
	10:00am	Coffee Pot in Bell Street Hall
	1.45pm	Tiny Church meet in Church Centre
	7.30pm	Crossfire meet at Ben & Nicki's
Thursday 26 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	11:30am	Church Open until 2:00pm
Friday 27 th	11:30am	Church Open until 2:00pm
	7.00pm	Bellringing Practice in Church
Sunday 29th September – The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity		
	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	All-age Service with Baptisms
	6.30pm	Reflective Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Pathfinders meet in Bell St Hall
Monday 30 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9.00am	Breakfast & Bibles meet in Bell St Hall
	7:00pm	Prayer meeting for the church and the world

The Church Office

Hours of Opening:

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday:

Wednesday & Friday

Tuesday evenings

01245 477501

9:30am to 12:30pm, 1:45pm to 3:00pm

9:30am to 12:30pm

7:00pm to 8:00pm

(wedding applications by appointment)



Email: stmaryschurchoffice@gmail.com

Website: www.stmarysgreatbaddow.org.uk
