



ST. BRIDGET'S, BRIDEKIRK

People of hope and love

Welcome to our first Leadership newsletter. We hope that you will find the information useful, informative and encouraging. As a team we have the faith, safety and wellbeing of all our congregation at the heart of our discussions. Currently our main concern is the regrouping of our congregation in church following the COVID pandemic.

You will see that some of our community groups are exploring ways of safely restarting activities. May we highlight that some safeguarding paperwork may well need reviewing. Please contact Sheila Martin, as our local safeguarding officer, for assistance and advice.

Garden Party & Back to Church Sunday weekend 18/19th September



A celebration of thanks weekend.

On the **Saturday 18th, 2-4pm**, we will be holding a simple Garden Party in the Church grounds for everyone in the parish. This will include various fun activities for all the family and light refreshments.

This is an opportunity to come and share together socially. Many of us have not had the opportunity to chat together one the past 18 months, we all have stories and experiences to share and lots to be thankful for.

Of course the more people we have at this event the better - so please share the news with others in your area and encourage them to come along to join the fun.

On **Sunday 19th** we will continue our celebrations with a service of praise and thanksgiving at 11am in Church.

Can you help?

If you are able to offer help with the organisation of Saturday then please contact Christina Brentnall (01900 824526) or Sheila Martin.

September Worship at 11am

5th : Holy Communion in Church,
followed by the baptism of Rosie Dixon

12th : Education Sunday - hybrid

19th : Back to Church Sunday - hybrid

26th : Service of Word with Rev. Lucy Thompson sharing the word



To join our hybrid services via Zoom
simply scan the QR code



Harvest festival and Gift day Sunday October 10th

Autumn is the season of harvesting and with our farming community we look forward to celebrating the success of the harvest at our festival on October 10th. As in past years, we will be supporting the local Food Bank and the Bishop's Harvest Appeal.

As we say thank you for the harvest, it feels right and appropriate to give thanks to God for the gifts he so generously gives to us all. So we will be combining our annual gift day with this service.

Please come and join our service of thanks in Church, when we will be accepting both harvest gifts and donations for our gift day.



The heavy metal band!



Our bell ringers have ventured upstairs again over the past 6 - 8 weeks for their regular Monday practice night. It was a pleasure to ring for Hannah and Declan's wedding earlier in August, and they look forward to restarting Sunday service ringing in the near future.

We are always looking for new ringers, both experienced or novices. If you, or someone you know, would like to try bell ringing, please contact Richard Green 01900 824311

St Bridget's community groups - UPDATE

St Bridget's Sunday School (Growing Disciples)

As with many groups during the COVID pandemic our Growing Disciples group have not been able to meet. Recently the volunteers who lead our children each week, have been looking at safe ways of restarting to gather them together again after the school holidays.

At the moment they are exploring exciting and innovative ways of meeting with God in the open air. As part of this review a group re-branding is being considered as a way to reflect the changes under consideration.

We will keep you updated with the changes and how to get involved as they emerge. The group has a WhatsApp group for quick up to date information. If you, or someone you know, would like to be part of that WhatsApp group please contact Cat Kinghan or Emma Rudman.

Bridekirk Friendship Group

A while ago the Church adopted the Bridekirk Friendship Group from Age UK. The group provides a place for those who are in need of social company to share a light lunch and time chatting together.

We have a small team of volunteers who have recently met to explore how we may safely offer this important place again.

On the morning of Monday September 27th, COVID permitting, we will be offering all our previous members the chance to come together for a coffee, tea, cakes and natter.

St Bridget's Church Baby Club

Prior to the COVID outbreak, our Church offered a weekly afternoon baby club. This was a time very much appreciated by mothers of pre-school children.

As with all our groups, they have not been able to join together for the past 18 months. Added to the restrictions imposed by COVID, we have also got issues with the room heating. So unfortunately, we apologise that, it will be a while yet before we are able to re-start this group.

St Bridget's Youth Cafe

The youth of our community are the future of the Church and the country. We have a small Youth Cafe which, prior to COVID, met monthly on a Saturday night. A lively group of young people gathered together to chat, play computer games, board games and consume copious amounts of hot chocolate, cakes and sweets.

We hope to re-open our Youth Cafe in October once all necessary risk assessments are complete. The group will be open to children in school years 6 and above.



Please pray for all the children, teenagers, adults and families who have accessed our community groups. Particularly hold in your prayers those who have felt lonely and isolated over the past 18 months and who have missed the social contact. Also, remember to pray for all our volunteers who have given up their time in the past, and that we can start to explore ways of starting up our groups again in a COVID safe manor.

As our youth prepare to leave home for university and college please hold them and their parents in your prayers.

Church Flowers - a message from the flower team

Elizabeth and I are still arranging a vase of flowers in church every 2 weeks. Thank you very much for the donations for the flowers up to the end of August and the remainder of 2021.

Margaret Hall

Flower Rota

12th September - Eleanor Peevor

26th September - Kathleen Gibson

10th October - **Harvest** - Congregation

31st October - Anita Birkett.

14th November - **Remembrance Sunday** - David & Hilary Halliwell.

28th November - **Advent** - there are no flowers in church.

25th December - **Christmas Day** - Congregation

If you wish to donate towards the flowers at Harvest and Christmas, please contact Margaret Hall or Elizabeth Steel. Thank you

Bridekirk Dovenby CofE School



Our local school is currently on their summer holidays. A break that is well earned by both children, staff and parents. The past 18 months have been very testing for many of us but especially for those with children.

COVID has meant that the school have not been able to access the Church and it's building in quite the same way it used to do. However, Rev Adrian Thompson has provided several video resources to help the school offer a Christian message to the children. Both he and Sheila Martin welcomed them to the church yard at Easter for an out of doors Easter experience.

During the year the Church presence on the school governing body has changed; with Jenny Hill and Cat Kinghan both taking on the role of school governor. Please hold both ladies in your prayers, asking God to guide them on their journey alongside the school and church.

As the new school year approaches and preparations start for a return to school we hold the staff and children in our prayers. May they be blessed with a safe and rewarding year ahead.



Baptisms at St Bridget's

We were pleased to welcome Grace Ivy Litt, her family and friends to our Church in August at Grace's baptism.

We look forward to welcoming two more families to our Church in the Autumn.

September 5th Rosie Dixon from Tallentire will be baptised at 12:30pm following the Communion service.

October 3rd Harry Gott from Tallentire will be baptised during the Holy Communion service.

Please come along and support both families and welcome their children into the Church family.



Congratulations to Hannah Royal and Declan Ibberson on their wedding in August. May God bless you both and your marriage together.



We remember all those who have died in the past few months. Particularly we remember Jessie Carson Herzberg. We lift to God all those who mourn the loss of a family member or friend, and particularly Jessie's children, Peter Herzberg and Helen Louise Raymond.



Check our Facebook page regularly for updates.
Scan the QR code or visit
<https://www.facebook.com/stbridgetsbridekirk>



If you have any questions, concerns, or comments to make regarding the life of our Church please talk to any of the DCC members, the leadership team or the clergy.