Ashwater Beaworthy Black Torrington Clawton Halwill Highampton Tetcott

St. Peter Ad Vincula St. Alban St. Mary St. Leonard St. Peter & St. James Holy Cross Holy Cross

Benefice Bulletin

July 2022

Those who go our weeping,
carrying seed to sow,
will return with songs of joy,
carrying sheaves with them.
Psalm 126: 6

JUNE 2022

BAPTISM

25th Mark KNIGHT
(Clawton)

WEDDING

11th Frances CHUBB & Trevor NASH
(Tetcott)

FUNERAL

16th Kate LAWLOR
(of Halwill, Exeter Crematorium)

17th Christine RICHARDS
(Interment of Ashes, Halwill)

CONTACTS

Priest in Charge (part time)

Revd. Stephen Skinner 07554 142 264

Contacts for Churches:

Ashwater	Terry Darby	01409 211 229
Beaworthy	Richard Prior	01409 221 986
Black Torrington:	Sheila Grabham	01409 231 581
	Val Letheren*	01409 231 430
Clawton:	Irene Ellis	01409 271 371
Halwill:	John Lawlor	01409 221 987
	Kay Napier	01409 221 321
Highampton		
Tetcott:	Nicki Mitchell	01409 271 381

Safeguarding **Val Letheren** **07484 880 770**

* or as above

From the Parish Registers image (pg. 2) © Parish Pump,
Cover image: Photo by Jake Givens on Unsplash
Ukraine graphic on the back page from pixabay.com, by chiajo-18290215
Thanks to Revd. Stephen for sending the poem on page 8

July

"OUR METHODIST & BAPTIST FRIENDS"

I thought I would give the above title to my July Article rather than the somewhat stuffy title of "Ecumenism"! I want to urge us all to put our full effort into working as closely as realistically as possible with our fellow Christian brothers and sisters in the three Methodist Chapels and two Baptist Churches that lie within our Benefice boundaries. It is interesting to note that these all lie towards the eastern end of our Benefice, whilst in the western end Chapels have all closed and some of the 'Free Church' adherents attend Tetcott, Clawton or Ashwater Churches. So, the approach to working ecumenically will vary a bit across our Benefice – internal collaboration or 'external' collaboration, as in Halwill Churches Together. You might know that I'm currently the Chair of Holsworthy & District Christians Together, and thus proving my ecumenical commitment!

Some people might well ask "Why bother to spend precious time working with Christians of other denominations?" This question was asked of me in my previous jobs in Swindon and Dalton-in-Furness, where I ministered in what were then called "Local Ecumenical Partnerships". These were four-way partnerships involving Methodists, United Reformed and Baptists or Roman Catholics working together. We were greatly enriched by our sharing of fellowship. This occurred through:
Joint Prayer and Worship, Social Activities, Social Action Projects and joint Missions within our communities. We learned so much from each other and made lots of new friends! We felt that it was a very powerful witness to our towns that Christians were obviously working together and attempting things that we did not have the resources to tackle on our own! We also involved younger generations who were not very interested in denomination labels but regarded themselves as post denominations "Christians". I thoroughly agreed with them!

However, this is not purely about pragmatism – joining forces in our weakness. I believe that Jesus calls us to become 'one body', 'one people', 'one family' in His Kingdom. The strongest statement on this from Jesus is to be found in John 17: 2-26. Jesus prays earnestly that all his disciples will be 'as one', just as He and His heavenly Father are one. So the strength of Christian unity should be as strong as

that within the Godhead! I also want you to note that Jesus says here that the purpose of this strong unity is that the world will believe in the Christian message:
Verse 21: "That the world may believe that you have sent me";
Verse 23: "To let the world know that you have loved them even as much as you have loved me".
St Paul and St John also have a great deal to write about Christian Unity, and about the importance of Christians reconciling their differences of theology and practice with the help of the Holy Spirit. In so far as they can do this they will be able to focus their time and energy upon much more important matters – practical witnessing to their faith and glorifying God in their worship.
That which unites us is so much greater than that which divides us; also true, I believe in regard to our fellow believers in the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox Churches.

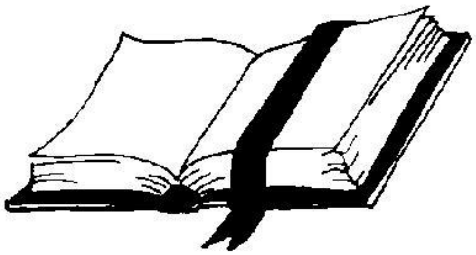
So, how can we grow our sense of unity in particular with our Methodist and Baptist friends?

- Come along to and even help plan some of the bimonthly joint Services being organised by Churches Together in Halwill. Our Jubilee Service there attracted at least 60 people!
- Come along to and help with the Coffee Mornings and events run by Christians Together around Holsworthy. Our next is the 'Bite Sized' Worship in the Square at 11.30am, July 10th.
- Join in our ecumenical Bible Studies by Zoom. These are still running, usually at 11am on alternate Tuesdays. The timing and link are always on the Pew Sheet.

I hope and pray that we will advertise for my successor to be fully committed to 'Ecumenism', for our future must surely lie in close collaboration with our local Christian friends!

STEPHEN

Lectionary Readings for **July 2022**



Sunday 3rd **St. Thomas**	**Sunday 10th** **Trinity 4**	**Sunday 17th** **Trinity 5**
Habakkuk 2: 1 – 4 Psalm 31: 1 – 6 Ephesians 2: 19 – end John 20: 24 – 29 **Services at Ashwater, Black Torrington, Halwill, Luffincott**	Amos 7: 7 – end Psalm 82 Colossians 1: 1 – 14 Luke 10: 25 – 37 **Services at Holsworthy, Beaworthy**	Amos 8: 1 – 12 Psalm 52 Colossians 1: 15 – 28 Luke 10: 38 – end **Services at Ashwater, Black Torrington, Halwill**
Sunday 24th **St James**	**Sunday 31st** **Trinity 7**	
Acts 11:27 – 12:2 Psalm 126 Colossians 2: 6 – 19 Matthew 20:20 – 28 **Services at Clawton, Beaworthy, Highampton**	Hosea: 11: 1 – 11 Psalm 107: 1 – 9 Colossians 3: 1 – 11 Luke 12: 13 – 21 **Services at Black Torrington, Tetcott**	

To help you prepare for one of our services or to read at home

Ashwater with Black Torrington Benefice
Services for July 2022

Sunday 3rd	9.30am	Ashwater	Communion
St. Thomas	11am	Halwill	Communion
	11am	Black Torrington	Café Church
	7pm (6pm)	Luffincott (Walk from Tetcott)	Midsummer Service
Sunday 10th	11am	Black Torrington	Morning Prayer
Trinity 4			
	11:30am	Clawton	* joining ecumenical service
	11:30am	Holworthy Town Centre	Ecumenical Service for St. Peter's Fair
	6.30pm	Beaworthy	Evensong
Sunday 17th	9:30am	Ashwater	Morning Service
Trinity 5	11am	Black Torrington	Communion
	11am	Halwill	Morning Service
Sunday 24th	11am	Beaworthy	Communion
St. James	11am	Clawton	Café Church
	6:30pm	Highampton	Evening Service
Sunday 31st	11am	Black Torrington	Open Air Communion
Trinity 7	4pm	Tetcott	Benefice Bring-Your-Own Picnic with outdoor service 5pm

Senior Clergy Reflection by The Rt. Rev'd Jackie Searle, The Bishop of Crediton

The Lambeth Conference 26th July to 8th August 2022

This month sees the gathering of Bishops of the Anglican Communion, known as The Lambeth Conference, taking place in Canterbury. There hasn't been such a gathering since 2008, and collective memory is hard to find – in our group of South West Bishops, only two had been at that conference. 'My memory is of walking long distances over the university campus,' said one. 'It was very intense,' said the other! So apart from walking and intensity, what can we expect?

'Inspired by the book of 1 Peter, we will explore what it means to be "God's Church for God's World,"' writes the Archbishop of Canterbury. 'We will discuss matters of church and world affairs. We will share stories from our different cultures.'

The first Lambeth Conference was in 1867. This will be the 15th. Looking back at previous agendas, the controversies and challenges of our time are echoed. In 1920 the conference affirmed the place of women as lay members of synod. They also resolved that: 'No one should be excluded from worship in any church on account of colour or race.' In the aftermath of the First World War, a resolution stated: 'War as a method of settling international disputes is incompatible with the teaching and example of our Lord Jesus Christ.'

These resonances with our own times are poignant, as we in turn 'wrestle with issues of common concern' today. The Church around the world faces incredibly challenging contexts that include war, poverty, climate change, terrorism, inequality, oppression and injustice. It is a vital time to be meeting.

Please pray for the Lambeth Conference and for the Anglican Communion all around the world. Pray that the Bishops gathered would be inspired to serve the living God and be faithful shepherds of God's church.

The Rt. Rev'd Jackie Searle, The Bishop of Crediton

Summer Days

WATHEN MARKS WILKS CALL

In summer, when the days were long,
We walk'd, two friends, in field and wood;
Out heart was light, our step was strong,
And life lay round us, fair as good,
In summer, when the days were long.

We stray'd from morn till evening cake,
We gather'd flowers, and wove us crowns;
We walk'd mid poppies red as flame,
Or sat upon the yellow downs,
And always wish'd our like the same.

In summer, when the days were long,
We leap'd the hedgerow, cross'd the brook;
And still her voice flow'd forth in song,
Or else she read some graceful book,
In summer, when the days were long.

And then we sat beneath the trees,
With shadows lessening in the noon;
And in the sunlight and the breeze
We revell'd, many a glorious June,
While larks were singing o'er the leas.

In summer, when the days were long,
We pluck'd wild strawberries, ripe and red,
Or feasted, with no grace but song,
On golden nectar, snow-white bread,
In summer, when the days were long.

We lov'd, and yet we knew it not,
For loving seem'd like breathing then'
We found a heaven in every spot;
Saw angels, too, in all good men,
And dream'd of gods in grove and grot.

In summer, when the days are long,
Alone I wander, muse alone;
I see her not, but that old song
Under the fragrant wind is blown,
In summer, when the days are long.

Alone I wander in the wood,
But one fair spirit hears my sighs;
And half I see the crimson hood,
The radiant hair, the calm glad eyes,
That charm'd me in life's summer mood.

In summer, when the days are long,
I love her as I lov'd of old;
My heart is light, my step is strong,
For love brings back those hours of gold,
In summer when the days are long.

AUGUST BULLETIN DEADLINE: 15TH JULY

Please send any details of services, events or fundraisers you want publicised, or any contributions – articles, images, poems etc. to Kay by this date. ANYTHING NOT RECEIVED BY THE 15TH MAY **NOT** BE IN THE AUGUST BULLETIN

Also, if you think you could help producing the Bulletin, please get in touch

zena.napier@gmail.com or 01409 221321

ADVANCE NOTICE: Temporary change in submission deadline

Usually submissions are 'fit in' where possible up to the release date of the Bulletin, as almost everything received is after the 15th cut off! However, submissions beyond the following dates will NOT be included due to personal circumstances.

Bulletin Deadline for October Bulletin: BY 18th September 2022

Bulletin Deadline for November Bulletin: BY 22nd October 2022

St. Mary's Ruby Ringers

Playing the restored church handbells

Meeting on Tuesdays

4:15 – 5:30pm

St. Mary's Church,
Black Torrington

All who would like to have a go are welcome!

Upcoming Dates for your Diary

July	11th	Visitation	7.30pm	**St Mary's Bideford.**
	15th Deadline for newsletter			
	31st	Summer Event		**Clawton**
August	**15th Deadline for newsletter**			
September	**15th Deadline for newsletter**			
	25th	Harvest Festival and Lunch		**Clawton**
October	**15th Deadline for newsletter**			
	15th	Big Breakfast		**Clawton**
	16th	Advertise the Post for new Priest		
November	9th	Orientation day		**All Parishes**
	10th	**Interview Day for new Priest**		
15th Deadline for newsletter				
	26th	Wine and Wisdom		**Clawton**
December	**15th Deadline for newsletter**			
	18th	Carol Service		**Clawton**
Feb/March 2023		**Institution Service for new Priest**		

PLEASE LET VAL HAVE DATES OF ANY EVENTS UP AND COMING.

WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD OR VULNERABLE ADULT?

Please speak to your Parish Safeguarding Representative if you have any concerns for the well-being of a child or adult, or about the behaviour of someone towards a child or adult.

Your Parish Safeguarding Representative is:
Name: **Val Letheren**
Contact: **val.letheren@btinternet.com** or **07484880770**

If you cannot reach your Parish Safeguarding Representative, please contact your parish clergy or the Diocesan Safeguarding Team:

Charlie Pitman, Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser - 01392 345909
Charles.Pitman@exeter.anglican.org

Stephen Edgeley, Diocesan Safeguarding Officer - 01392 345910 -
Stephen.Edgeley@exeter.anglican.org

Phill Parker, Assistant Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser - 01392 294969 -
DBS@exeter.anglican.org

For general enquiries - SafeguardingEnquiry@exeter.anglican.org

IMMEDIATE RISK OF HARM?

If you believe somebody is at immediate risk of harm or that a crime has been committed, dial **999**
If you have serious concerns about an individual's well-being, you should contact the relevant agencies:

Concerns about children
Devon Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH): **0345 155 1071**

Please notify your Parish Safeguarding Representative and/or the Diocesan Safeguarding Team after contacting any of these agencies.

Concerns about adults
Devon - Care Direct: **0345 155 1007**
Domestic Abuse
Devon helpline for professionals and individuals: **0345 155 1074**
Rape Crisis
National: **0808 802 9999** Devon & Torbay: **01392 20417**

St. Peter Ad Vincula, Ashwater EX21 5EY

St. Alban, Beaworthy EX21 5AB

St. Mary, Black Torrington EX21 5PU

St Leonard, Clawton EX22 6PS

St. Peter & St. James, Halwill EX21 5UH

Holy Cross, Highampton EX21 5LE

Holy Cross, Tetcott EX22 6QZ

The Priest in Charge of our churches Revd. Stephen Skinner can be contacted by telephoning 07554 142 264 or emailing sjmskinners@btinternet.com