DAWLISH COAST MISSION COMMUNITY

A newsletter brought to you every fortnight throughout the year with information from the churches of St Gregory's (Dawlish); St George's (Holcombe); St Mary's (Cofton) and St Paul's (Starcross).

Issue date: Sunday 22nd September 2024.

CALLED TO BE DISCIPLES Steve Cronin writes:

As Christians we are all called to be disciples (followers of Jesus), we know that is true, but how does that make you feel inside? When you read the stories of the disciples in the bible or those people like John Wesley who stand out in our history for their faith do you ever think - I can never be like them? It's certainly true for me, even though I've now been licensed to the benefice as a LLM and I'm looking forward to taking the service at St George's this Sunday. As you get to



know me you will find the idea of discipleship is something that I feel really strongly about. Yet it's easy to look at the people we read about, and think, that's alright for them what about little old me?

When I think like that, I remember that in Jesus time, all Jewish schoolchildren, from the age of 5 until about 11 (equivalent to primary school age today) would learn the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Torah (their scriptures), and what we know as our Old Testament, by rote. That's Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. I remember learning my times tables at school but that's nothing like committing the first five books of the bible to memory!

After this the rabbis would choose the very best students (boys only I'm afraid at this time), and they continued to learn the rest of their scriptures. Those that didn't make the grade went home to their families and learnt a trade. When the students reached the age of about 15 years old the rabbis separated out the very best of the best and said to them "Come follow me" These students became their disciples, and literally followed in the rabbis footsteps and would see how their rabbi lived and reacted to different things. The rabbis equipped them to be rabbis in turn. Again, those who didn't make the grade went home and learnt a trade.

In Matthew 4 vs 18 - 22 we read the story of Jesus calling his first disciples, Simon (Peter), Andrew, James and John. Jesus said to Simon and Andrew "Come follow me and I will make you fishers of men."

A familiar story, but did you notice that these men were fishermen? They didn't make the grade in school, these guys weren't the very best of all the scholars in their school, these guys had a trade! Jesus wasn't interested in the very best of the best, he was interested in the everyday guy that had rough hands and smelt of fish. That same Jesus, is interested in us ordinary people, he wants us to be his disciples today - you don't need to have dirty hands and smell fishy! He wants you to follow in his footsteps here in Dawlish, Holcombe, Cofton and Starcross, when we are in work, at the shops or chatting to the neighbour over the fence.

The four disciples in the bible dropped everything and followed - are we willing to follow Jesus today?

Paul Jones, St Greg's Church Treasurer, writes:

FEES TREASURER—COULD THIS BE YOU?



After doing the job admirably for 12 years Graham Reynolds has decided it is time to let someone else have the fun of being the Fees Treasurer at St. Gregory's (responsible for the fees for Weddings and Funerals). So we are looking for a volunteer for a new Fees Treasurer please. It is not an onerous task but it is an important one.

The role requires a little knowledge of Excel, occasional contact with Funeral Directors (including sending invoices), and takes about 2 hours a week and 2 additional hours a month. So if you would like to take on the role, want to know more about it, or know someone who would be prepared to do it, please let me know. My phone number is 07917 024959 or I can be reached by email at pj.dawlish@btinternet.com

ALSO: THANKS ON BEHALF OF THE CHURCHES AND PCCS

The Churches in the Benefice only survive due to the regular giving of Parishioners, one-off donations and appeals are wonderful, but it is Regular Donations that keep the Churches functioning and able to pay the routine bills and expenses. So on behalf of each of the Churches and PCCs in the Benefice we'd like to thank all those who give regularly, no matter how you do it or how much you give.

There are many ways to give, notably PGS (Parish Giving Scheme), Bank Standing Orders, Bank Transfers, Gift Aid envelopes or Cash and we are grateful for them all. The Parish Giving scheme has the option of an automatic annual increase but if you would like to make a change to your giving and are unsure how to do it please contact your local Treasurer. And if you haven't yet signed a Gift Aid form allowing your Church to reclaim tax on your donations please consider it, it costs you nothing and is a great help to your Church. For more information please contact your own local Church Treasurer.

ST GREG'S HARVEST AND DEVON HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST OPEN DAY

Last weekend (14th and 15th September) saw the Harvest Festival service at St. Gregory's on Sunday and the DHCT (Devon Historic Churches Trust) Open Day on Saturday.

The collections at the Harvest Service raised £175 which has been sent to St. Petrock's in Exeter, and the food donated was taken to the Dawlish Community Larder.



Donations and Bric-a-Brac sales at the DHCT Open Day raised nearly £340 which will be sent off to DHCT, who have assisted St. Gregory's several times in past years. **Dawlish Coast Mission Community**



"At the End of the Day, is God Enough for Us?" an afternoon of quiet prayer at St George's Church, Holcombe on Saturday 28th September 2-4pm

2pm Opening worship and reflection followed by an hour or so on our own in the stillness 3.30pm Closing worship followed by tea and cake

All are welcome!

For information, phone Helen Bays 01626-863098 Text 07391-594867

helen.bays@hotmail.com

SCAFFOLDING - A PLAY - Saturday 5th October, 7.30pm at St Greg's

On Saturday 5th October, at 7.30pm, St. Gregory's is hosting a performance of this play, written by local author Lucy Bell and set at a Church. The play has recently been performed at the Exeter Phoenix, Bristol Old Vic and Edinburgh Fringe, and is due to be performed at the Exeter Barnfield Theatre. Lucy also wanted to see it performed in a local Church, so as a one-off it is coming to St. Gregory's, and will be preceded by the local Learning Disability Makaton Choir "Sing and Sign Jukebox".

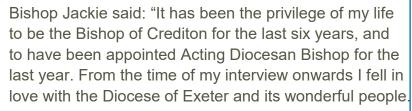


Tickets are available from:

Documentaltheatre.co.uk Email info.documentaltheatre.com or call 07977 534576.

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE BISHOP OF CREDITON

The Bishop of Crediton, the Rt. Rev'd Jackie Searle, has announced she plans to retire at the end of January 2025. Bishop Jackie has served as Bishop of Crediton for six years, after being consecrated a bishop in 2018. For the last year she has been, in addition, the Acting Bishop of Exeter, overseeing the Diocese of Exeter since the retirement of Bishop Robert last September.



"We are blessed with fantastic church communities and congregations, schools, chaplaincies, clergy and laity; followers of Jesus who live out day by day the diocesan vision to pray, grow and serve the people of Devon with joy. This vision grabbed me from the start and has been my personal priority throughout. I have found great joy in the people of God here, and in my own ministry....."

Bishop Jackie's retirement will come three months after the enthronement of the new Bishop of Exeter, the Rt. Rev'd Mike Harrison, at Exeter Cathedral on 2nd November.





SERVICES - 22nd September to 5th October

Sunday 22nd September

9.15am St George's – Morning Worship St Paul's - Harvest Service 10am St Gregory's – Holy Communion 10am

11.15am St Mary's - Harvest Service

6.30pm Telephone Service - dial 01200 480091 to join

Tuesday 24th September

Prayer Meeting on Zoom - see details aside 9am

Wednesday 25th September

St Gregory's - Midweek Holy Communion 10am

Sunday 29th September

10.30am United Benefice Service

at St Paul's Church, Starcross

PLEASE NOTE: There are no services at the other three churches on this Sunday

Tuesday 1st October

Prayer Meeting on Zoom - see details aside 9am

Wednesday 2nd October

10am St Gregory's - Midweek Holy Communion



TUESDAY PRAYER MEETING ON ZOOM

All welcome to a half hour of prayer online on Tuesdays at 9am.

Just click on this link or

go to https://zoom.us/join and enter:

Meeting ID: 575 020 5964 and Passcode: 850653.



FOLLOW THESE LINKS to find us on



FACEBOOK or INSTAGRAM

St Greg's Facebook Instagram

St George's Facebook

St Mary's Facebook

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY coming up soon

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 24th 9.30-11.30am Little Greg's in St Greg's

2pm Julian Group in St Greg's

7.30pm PCC Meeting in St Greg's Wednesday 25th

11am CTDD meeting Saturday 28th

> in Dawlish Methodist Church 2pm Quiet Prayer Afternoon

at St George's (more info - see page 2) 7.30pm Harvest Barn Dance & Supper

at St Mary's Hall, Dawlish Warren

Sunday 29th **4pm Organ Recital** by Ian Tracey

in St Greg's

OCTOBER

9-11am Kids'Swap Shop in St Greg's **Tuesday 1st**

9.30-11.30am Little Greg's in St Greg's

Thursday 3rd 2pm Pudding Club in St Greg's

Saturday 5th 11am-1.30pm Monthly Sale at St Paul's

7.30pm 'Scaffolding', a play by Lucy Bell, in St Greg's (*more info - page 3*)

If you would like any support, or someone to talk to, or you know of someone else who does, please contact one of the following:

Revd Linda Cronin (Day off - Monday): 01626 927281 or email: revdlinda@icloud.com

Margaret Noel: 01626 863148; Will Halse: 01626 866054; Ceri Lee: 07739 936286; Steve Cronin: 07817 678774.



Support us to create the 'fun' for 2025

looking for to be one of our **Dawlish Celebrates Carnival Directors or Committee Volunteers?**





Interested in creating fun for everyone? Want to find out more about what we're looking for or to let us know what you can offer?

Email chairman@dawlishcelebratescarnival.co.uk Phone 07946 626516

We're 100% led by Volunteers and couldn't run **Dawlish Celebrates Carnival** without support from all of our valued volunteers



www.dawlishcelebratescarnival.co.uk