

Parish Magazine

St. Luke's Church & Cronton Mission
+ serving God and the community +

On Monday 23rd September

Reverend Canon

Peter William Dawkin



was licensed as Priest in Charge
of Farnworth St Luke with Cronton
Mission.

Reverend Peter will lead a service of Holy
Communion on Sunday 29th September at
St. Luke's church

October and November 2024 £1.50



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Director of Music Paul Delaney 07778042553

Choir Practice usually Thursdays 6pm-7pm

Tower Captain Nigel Goulding

Bell ringing practice usually Tuesdays 6.30pm

Schools Farnworth C.E. Primary 01514243042

Cronton C.E. Primary 01514243881

Editor Philip Lacey 07710030973

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Please submit any material, articles or adverts, via email to farnworthreview@yahoo.co.uk with attachments in Word - Arial font 12

Deadline for articles noon on 18th November 2024

The Editor, Clergy and the Churchwardens reserve the right to omit or edit material provided for inclusion in this magazine.

The Sanctuary

Meets every Wed 10:30am-2pm at St Ambrose Church Halton View Road Widnes

If you enjoy chatting with people in your community, or even if you just need a place to hang out, then we are here for you.

On occasions speakers on subjects surrounding health and wellbeing and it's a place to meet friends in our local community and to share our stories.

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Dear Friends,



'To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.'

Many of you will recognise this verse from the Bible, from the Book of Ecclesiastes. Ecclesiastes is full of words of wisdom, guiding and encouraging us to live lives that are both fruitful and God-centred rather than barren and self-centred.

For me, these past ten months have definitely been more fruitful and God-centred. Writing two, sometimes three sermons a week, has meant that I have delved much deeper into the Bible than ever before. What a huge privilege that has been but it has also been exhausting; my head is now full to bursting with new found facts and information. The time has truly been a blessing and I personally thank you for your support during these past months.

Autumn is surely a time for us to give thanks to God for his bounty and his many blessings, definitely to focus on a life that is God-centred, to look forward to all that Peter will bring us as our new Priest on Charge, our new Shepherd in Christ.



Autumn tree

I am so looking forward to Peter's ministry among us and all that he has to offer. I know that he is very much looking forward to getting to know us. It seems entirely appropriate that Peter is joining us as the seasons change. As the leaves change colour and fall from the trees, everything becomes mellow and calms down, giving us the opportunity to reflect, to let go of some things, and give us that precious time to look at things with fresh eyes.

Jane Austen calls Autumn, 'The season of the soul'. I really like that. I pray that you all have a good and blessed Autumn, a new season for your soul. SUE

'Autumn' composed by Paul Laurence Dunbar 1872 -1906



October is the treasurer of the year,
And all the months pay bounty to her store;
The fields and orchards still their tribute bear,
And fill her brimming coffers more and more
But she, with youthful lavishness,
Spends all her wealth in gaudy dress,
And decks herself in garments bold
Of scarlet, purple, red, and gold.
She heedeth not how swift the hours fly,
but smiles and sings her happy life along.
She only sees above a shining sky;
She only hears the breezes' voice in song.
Her garments trail the woodlands through,
And gather pearls of early dew
That sparkle, till the roguish Sun
Creeps up and steals them every one.
But what cares she that jewels should be lost,
When all of Nature's bounteous wealth is hers?
Though princely fortunes may have been their cost,
Not one regret her calm demeanour stirs.
Whole-hearted, happy, careless, free,
She lives her life out joyously,
Nor cares when Frost stalks o'er her way
And turns her auburn locks to grey.

AUTUMN

Whilst searching for a poem about Autumn, I came across this poem entitled 'October' composed by Paul Laurence Dunbar. As I had never heard of him, I decided to do a bit a research and was fascinated by what I found. In a time when we celebrate diversity, it is hard to understand what a hard time Paul had.



Paul Laurence Dunbar was born on June 27, 1872, to parents who were slaves in Kentucky. Paul's mother Matilda was released from her bond and she moved to Dayton where Paul was born, she already had two sons from a previous relationship. His father escaped from slavery and he joined one of the first black units in the American army. His father died when Paul was just thirteen years old.

Paul wrote his first poem at the age of six and gave his first public recital at the age of nine. His mother often read the Bible to him and it was she who taught him to read and write; she hoped he might become a Minister in the Episcopal Church, the first independent black denomination church in America. He was determined and studied hard; he became the only African-American student in the High School in Dayton. [One of his classmates was Orville Wright]

Paul began writing stories and verses when he was a child and published his first poems at the age of 16 in a Dayton newspaper, and became the editor of the school newspaper. What he really aspired to was a career in law, but there was no money to pay for a university education. He tried to get work with various local businesses, only to be rejected because of his race. He finally found work as a lift operator, a job that allowed him time to continue writing. Some of the work he wrote in dialect and it was this that later brought him fame. At one point, he came to England and toured around the country reading his poetry. Sadly, he died at the age of just 34. His work often exposed the harsh truths of racial prejudice but this poem entitled 'October' wonderfully describes the beauty of autumn that I love. I hope that you enjoy reading it. Sue

Biography of Reverend Peter

I was born in Liverpool but grew up in Huyton, where I attended St. Michael's from the age of 7 when I joined the choir.

I am married to Linda, who is the vicar of St. Michael with St. Thomas, Ditton, and we have three children - Beth, James and Ben, who are all at High School. I also have two older children, Luke and Joel.

Before Ordination I worked for Plessey Telecomms on Edge Lane in Liverpool where I started as an apprentice and ended up as a lecturer.

After ordination I worked in Birkdale, Netherton, Norris Green, Wigan and, of course, Widnes. I am currently the Area Dean and the Chair of the House of Clergy for our Diocesan Synod.

I love Cricket and Hockey, which, until a few years ago, I used to play regularly. I also confess to being an Evertonian, for which I suffer, as Linda is a Liverpudlian!

I love listening to music and have a very diverse collection - from rock to classical.

I am looking forward to meeting and getting to know you all in the coming weeks and months and hope that you will pray for me and my family as I begin my ministry amongst you. Peter

Prayer for Peter from Licensing service

Give Peter vision for his preaching; faithfulness for his teaching; diligence for his visiting; sympathy for his counselling; compassion in declaring your pardon for the penitent; courage in his witness; and the peace that passes understanding for his daily walk with Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Wednesday Fellowship 9.30 Mid-week service

We are blessed to have a growing number of people attend our mid-week services which alternate between Holy Communion and Morning Prayer. After our worship, many stay behind for a coffee and a catch-up and usually there is cake; we are very grateful to our bakers who provide such delicious treats.

However, the service on August 28th was extra special. On that day, we celebrated the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Linda and Andrew Strickland.



On 31st August 1974, Linda and Andrew were married at St Michael's Church in Ditchfield Road in Widnes. As part of their 50th wedding celebrations, members of their family joined them at St Luke's for a service of Holy Communion by Extension, which included a Blessing on her Anniversary. Afterwards a toast was proposed accompanied by homemade 'wedding cake'. Lesley Runcorn kindly prepared a flower arrangement containing yellow roses, which incidentally matched the roses in the bouquet Linda carried on her wedding day.

Congratulations to Andrew and Linda, from your St Luke's family, especially the Wednesday gang!
Sue and Colleen

Farnworth School PTA are fundraising for a Library Pod



Are you having a clear out? A de-clutter before Christmas?

Do you have any unwanted clothes, paired shoes, bags, hats, scarves, jewellery, socks, belts, curtains, towels or bedding?

(No uniform, duvets, pillows or soiled / ripped clothing).

In partnership with the eco-friendly Bag2School fundraising scheme, we are collecting for our next weigh-in!

Our next collection day is Thursday 14th November 2024

Bags of items can be dropped off

at church from 16th October onwards

or at 310 Upton Lane from Friday 8th November onwards

Any donations will help with our School fundraising and also promote the reuse of clothes & shoes to help build a more sustainable future.

For a full list of what can and can't be donated, please visit the website <https://bag2school.com/what-we-collect>

Farnworth C of E Primary School



Christmas Markets

Food, Craft,
& Gift
Stalls



Saturday 23rd November 2024

11am -3pm adults £1 Children free

**Amazing Prize Draw, Fabulous Foodstalls,
Mulled Wine, Mince Pies & much, much
more**

DONATIONS

PTA Christmas Market: SATURDAY NOVEMBER 23rd.

Church members will have a Games Room at the market.

Unused gifts such as Christmas treats, toiletries and toys prizes for children and adults would be appreciated. Just drop off at church. Thank you.

OPEN DOOR

On the first Saturday of each month, between 10am and 11.30am St Luke's doors are open for people to drop in. On September 7th we had a bumper number of people come in to look around, ask questions and chat over a cup of tea or coffee, toasted teaCakes or Crumpets.

Please do wander up, have some quiet time if you need it or sit and chat if you are need of company.

Everyone is welcome

Sue



Café worship at Cronton and JAM Club at St Luke's church

I am the bread of life

On Sunday 4th August and Sunday 11th August the Gospel readings have all been about Jesus saying, "I am the bread of life" (John 6:35). When Jesus said "I am the bread of life" he was saying that he was the true source of life and nourishment and is what we need to grow and thrive in a spiritual sense.

When we have Jesus, we have everything we need and because Jesus died for our sins it means we can grow and live full lives. Before he died, Jesus shared a meal with the disciples in which he shared bread and said this is my body – a sign that he was sharing himself with us. And when we say the Lord's Prayer "Give us this day our daily bread", this is what we are praying for, we are asking for what we need – our spiritual nourishment.

On August 4th we explored what this all meant at Café Worship at Cronton Church, and we made salt dough crosses to take home and bake to remind us about Jesus saying "I am the bread of life." At JAM (Jesus And Me) Club, we continued with this theme. Just for something a bit different, we watched a short video clip that I had made that explained the theme using cartoon images and then we also made our own salt dough crosses to take home and bake, before sharing food and fellowship together.

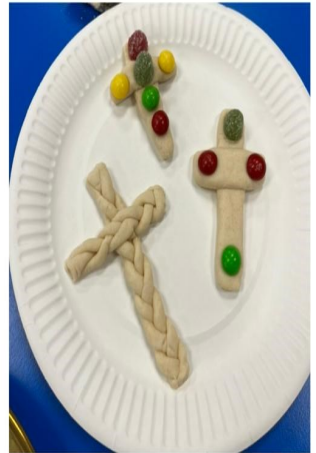
Why not come and join us at one of our services?

On next page see a picture of us all at Café Worship in Cronton; a wide range of ages and backgrounds, and we all so enjoy sharing worship together. Café worship starts at 10:30am on the first Sunday of the month, we meet at Cronton CofE School.

And also see the pictures of JAM Club, which meets at 3pm on the second Sunday of the month at St Luke's Church in Farnworth Village and is aimed at families with children.

You are very welcome at any of our services, please come and join us!

Clare



Cronton Church Café Worship Clean Hands, Clean Heart

This is what it said in the Bible reading for the day: "And he called the people to him again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand: There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him." " (Mark 7:14-15)

We thought about why we need to have clean hands - to wash away the germs on them so when we eat or put our fingers in our mouths we are not going to make ourselves unwell. We had fun seeing how good our handwashing skills were using UV gel and torch, plus a light box - we were pleased to know that our handwashing skills are good, with no (or very little) UV gel residue left on our hands after giving them a good wash.

It is important to wash our hands, but God also wants us to be clean on the inside too. We can't wash our hearts with soap but that's ok because Jesus washed our hearts with his blood.

When he died on the cross for us, he took away all our sins, so we could have clean hearts, and so we need to remember this.

So now its up to us to keep our heart clean and pure, we need to have hearts that are willing to serve God, and not just serving him with words that come from our lips or actions from our hands, but truly from our heart in the way that we live. This involves us doing the right things for the right reasons and being mindful of God working in our lives.

We made a sign as part of our craft activities, with a heart and a cut out of our hands that said:

"Wash your hands!

And say your prayers...

God is with us,

And He cares!"

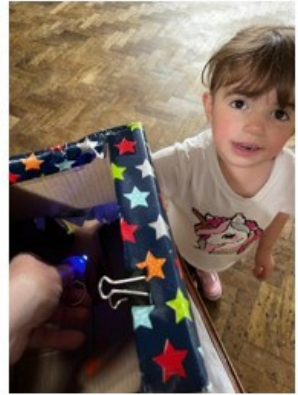
We decided we might hang them in our bathrooms to remind us, and others, about what is important in life.

For the older members (aka 'young at heart' members) of our congregation there was also the opportunity to think about what it means to make our hearts a throne for Jesus. "Jesus is Lord. We are not. Yet, no matter how much we may mean it when we say it, we often live as though we are still on the thrones in our hearts." Something for you to ponder on!

If you think this all sounds fun and interesting, join us for Café Worship at Cronton Mission Church first Sunday of each month at 10:30am. Clare



Clean hands!



Clean Heart!



TRIBUTE to Alma Marshall



We were so very sad to learn of the death of our dear friend Alma Marshall. After a short illness she passed away very peacefully in Aintree University Hospital surrounded by her family. It is hard to know where to start when putting together a Tribute to her. Her strong faith underpinned all that she was and did; she was so kind and caring, where she saw a need Alma stepped right in, there was never any need to ask, she was always just there.

Previously Alma had worshipped at St Paul's and also St John's churches before coming to join us at St Luke's when she and Alan moved into their flat in Farnworth; it is so true that everywhere she went she left a lasting legacy.

Until very recently she was so very active in church, we had to MAKE her sit down. As her mobility decreased she was sad to have to give up serving teas and coffees, she was our 'Queen of the Tea Bar', all the cupboards and drawers were organised just as she liked them, she knew where every single thing was.

She was generous with her time and support of our monthly Open Door and was more than happy to sit and chat with people who wandered in; her friendly manner made a difference and she soon got to know them and make them feel welcome.

The church brass and silver shone when she took on the responsibility of cleaning and polishing them on a regular basis and now, her apprentice Stephen has taken on that role for which we are extremely grateful. After every concert or event Alma would gather up all the glasses, sometimes over 100 of them, she would INSIST on taking them home to wash and dry them...we definitely need to find someone to take on that role!

Mothers' Union played a large part in her life and through them she had increased her circle of friends. She will be sorely missed there.

It was in tribute to her and a public display of thanks and respect, that her MU friends made a guard of honour as she was carried into church.

I know that I am not only one who was at the receiving end of her kindness and generosity. You would only need to give Alma a lift somewhere and she would ring afterwards, send a lovely hand written letter or a beautiful Thank you card and sometimes a bouquet of flowers would appear; I know that Fred, from Presentation Florists, will miss her custom.

She loved to socialise and appreciated time spent in the company of others...the Birthday Gang is sadly missing another gang member as is a small group of us who occasionally met at Pesto for a meal and catch up away from church; we will all miss her company and that lovely smile. She sparkled, not only with her eyes but also the pretty brooches and necklaces she wore, she was beautiful inside and out!

Alma coped really well through Covid, she took isolation seriously, determined to stay safe; family and friends dropped off shopping for her, but even through the pandemic, there were still the regular phone calls enquiring about everyone. She had this amazing capacity to remember the names of our children and their children. She also learned to use a tablet, so that she could communicate with family and friends and that enabled her to join in our weekly Zoomed church services. That was quite an achievement for an octogenarian, and the person who showed her such patience in teaching her knows who he is.

She missed Alan more than words could ever describe, but after his passing she was determined not to mope; she knew that he would not have wanted that and so she stoically carried on, talking about him often and Wimbledon was a highlight for her, bringing back those proud memories of Alan acting as umpire. A day didn't pass without her mentioning his name.

However, there was something else that was never in any doubt - that was her love for her family. We all knew what each of them was up to, who had a new job, where they went on holidays, eager to share her latest photos. She loved to spend time with them and was immensely proud of each and every one of them.

Each time she came to church her first stop would be bold Chapel where she would light a candle in memory of those whom she had loved and lost. Of course, being Alma, she always had to tidy the

area, ensuring there was a supply of fresh candles available; that's another job someone will need to take on!

Her deep, unfaltering faith saw her through some tough times and prayer was an essential part of her daily routine, but her family were her focus, they always came first and I hope that they all know and appreciate this.

We, as her church family, have found it hard to accept that she will no longer be taking her place in the back pew; her family must be finding it even harder.

She was a devoted wife, an adored mum, nan and little nannie, a caring sister, a good and kind neighbour and generous friend to so many. She wasn't afraid to let go of her earthly life, she knew what she had to look forward to, she so deserves the rest and peace that she will now know in God's heavenly home, reunited with Alan, the love of her life. We send our deepest sympathy to Steven and Debbie, Glen and Bernie and all her family.

Psalm 121 was one of Alma's favourite Bible readings; Alma lifted her eyes to the hills because she knew God was there for her, through good and difficult times. As Christians, we talk about love being 'God given', he must have been feeling super generous with Alma, because her heart overflowed with love for her family and there was still enough left over for her church family and her huge circle of friends. Many of US were at the receiving end of that love and generosity of spirit.

Alma was an inspiration to me and so many others. She will be sorely missed. This tribute was written with love and thanks from me and her St Luke's family.

Rest in peace dear friend, rest in peace.

Sue Smither

Thank you to everyone who donates funds for flowers in church.
No flowers in Advent.

Oct	FLOWER ROTA	Nov	FLOWER ROTA
6	Mrs L Gregson	3	Miss L Runcorn
13	Mrs Gail Beswick	10	Mrs V Park-Funnell
20	Mr & Mrs R Roberts	17	Mrs S Connolly
27	Mr P Herriman	24	Advent



A poem written for Alma by her granddaughter Aimee on behalf of her grandchildren.

OUR NAN

You were the centre of our world Nan, which is why I stand up here today,
I always thought when this day came I'd know exactly what to say.
Don't know what I was thinking, I couldn't be more wrong,
So I've tried to put it all in a poem, bear with me, this could be long.
I said to Ryan the other day let's make a list of what we'll miss,
It sounded silly at the time, but what I meant was this....
We'll miss your beautiful smile as infectious as could be,
You soul so pure and innocent, you were a role model to me.
We'll miss the many stories of how you lived through the war,
We listened so intently despite hearing them all before.
We'd sit with you for hours putting the world to rights.
We will miss your cooking, though different from the rest,
the roasties in the chip pan and the hotpot was the best.
Our holidays to the caravan have given us memories to last forever,
I'll never forget the bedtime stories and prayers we said together.
We would list our entire family and ask God Bless them all,
Be the time we got to Frosty to sleep we then would fall.
We have so many happy memories Nan, too many to recall,
Just know we thank you dearly for how much you loved us all.
If only we could have the chance to see your face once more,
To hear your voice one final time, just like it was before.
It's been the hardest thing to lose you Nan, you meant so much to me,
But you are in our hearts and that is where you'll always be.
Thank you for being the best Nan we could wish for,
rest in peace now with Grandad.

HELP!!! We all know the saying.....



...and we ALL know that is so true!

Could you spare an hour or two just once a month to help keep our church clean and tidy...spick and span?

The 'CLEAN TEAM' meet on the last Wednesday of the month, from 10.30 to 1pm. Tea, coffee, polish and dusters all provided and no experience is needed!!

If YOU could lend a helping hand, we would really appreciate that.

Next CLEAN TEAM October 30th, November 27th and December 18th.

*****]

MESSAGE from WIDNES FOODBANK

Harvest Festival is a long-standing tradition across the world to celebrate a bountiful harvest, it is also a time for reflection and gratitude. With church services, school assemblies and your own private thoughts, we all give thanks for the food upon our table. Whether you're reaping your own home-grown items, participating in a local harvest festival, or simply savouring the flavours of the season I hope that you can spare an item to donate to those who are in crisis within our own community.

Harvest season also reminds us of the interconnectedness between nature, agriculture, our daily lives and of course charity. Without our community, we would not be able to help those in need.

Widnes Foodbank and I would like to say thank you for your support during the year and the Harvest season.

With gratitude, Vicky

October	St Ambrose	St Luke's	Cronton Mission
Wed 2 nd	10.30 Sanctuary	09.30 HC	
Sun 6 th	10.30 MP HARVEST	10.30 HC	10.30 Reception Class Welcome
	3pm 145 th Anniversary Songs of Praise		
Wed 9 th	10.30 Sanctuary	09.30 MP	
Sun 13 th		08.00 HC	
	10.30 MP	10.30 MP HARVEST	10.30 MP
		15.00 JAM	
Wed 16 th	10.30 Sanctuary	09.30 HC	
Sun 20 th	09.00 HC		
	10.30 Team service @ Cronton		
		12.30 BAPTISMS	
Wed 23 rd	10.30 Sanctuary	09.30 MP	
Fri 25 th			14.30 to 15.15pm School Café Worship
Sun 27 th	10.30 HC	10.30 MP	10.30 Café style with Baptisms
		18.00 HC	
Wed 30 th	10.30 Sanctuary	09.30 HC	

Harvest

10.30am
13th October

As usual your donations will be taken to Widnes Foodbank. Please see their poster on the next page listing items needed at this time. Thank you.

The Big Widnes Foodbank

Harvest Appeal

2024



Tinned fish

Tinned ham

Tea

Coffee

Pasta 'n' Sauce

Microwave rice

Tinned fruit

Toilet roll

Biscuits



**HELP SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL
FOODBANK BY DONATING AN
ITEM OR TWO THIS HARVEST**

Simply take your items to a local
donation collection point and drop off

Scan to find donation
collection points



www.widnesfoodbank.org.uk

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England & Wales.
Charity Registration Number 1155130.



SERVICE	ROTA	NOVEMBER	
	St Ambrose	St Luke's	Cronton Mission
Sun 3 rd	10.30 MP	10.30 HC	10.30 Café Style
All Saints	16.00 Memorial service	15.00 Time to Remember	
Wed 6 th	Sanctuary	09.30 MP	
Sun 10 th Remembrance		08.00 HC	
	10.30 MP	10.30 MP	10.45 Cronton Cenotaph
Sunday		15.00 JAM	
Wed 13 th	Sanctuary	09.30 HC	
Sun 17 th	09.00 HC		
	10.30 HC Team service @ St Ambrose		
		12.30 Baptisms	
Wed 20 th	Sanctuary	09.30 MP	
Sun 24 th	10.30 MP	10.30 MP	10.30 HC
		18.00 HC	
Wed 27 th	Sanctuary	09.30 HC	
Fri 30 th			14.30 to 15.15pm School Café worship



A Time of Remembering: All Souls Day

A gentle service to remember all those whom we have loved but no longer see is to be held at St Luke's Church at 3pm on Sunday November 3rd.

ALL ARE WELCOME



Cronton Mission and school

As a foundation governor, attendance at the Diocesan school leaders conference at the start of the new academic year is always inspiring and challenging in equal measures. My objective is always to try to encompass the important factors and vision brought to this meeting each year in my commitment to both Cronton Mission and school.

This year's conference was entitled "Disrupting Disadvantage" based on Matthew 19:14 "Let the children come to me.....do not hinder them". The keynote speaker, being the CEO of the Children's Society who shared data collected from children, which clearly demonstrated that life in our rapidly changing world is currently "just too hard for too many children". The society's aim by 2030 is to enable children to be "happier, safer, and more resilient". The school staff and governors have also started off the new academic year with training on the new SIAMS framework and (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) Our inspection has not been listed in this academic year, but our early focus ensures Christian Distinctiveness remains a school priority for inclusion and improvement.

Whilst operationally, Cronton Mission is striving to meet the spiritual needs of the school pupils, parents and the community, particularly through cafe worship and JAM club, both the conference and training have led me to question the strategic direction for both church and school going forward. With Reverend Peter's guidance, in the near future, I hope we can continue to develop as a church community in partnership with school to offer appropriate spiritual support so that both children and adults can flourish.

Debbie Doyle



**A session of fun, faith and fellowship
for families and the 'young at heart'**

Sundays 13th October and 10th November

3pm to 4pm

**STORY
TIME!**

craft activities & food

Bring your little ones to meet Jack



For more information contact

Clare 07976549410

FARNWORTH COFE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Welcome: At the start of this Autumn term, Farnworth CE Primary School welcomed Mrs Kidd as their new Head Teacher. We, at St Luke's, look forward to continuing our strong relationship with the school under her leadership and wish her every happiness and success in her new role.

Harvest: The children from school came to church for their Harvest Services. They fetched a mountain of food donations for Food Bank. As ever a huge 'Thank you' to their parents for their generosity. The Value Ambassadors led both services with such confidence, even though the children had only been back in school for a couple of weeks they had learned joyful Harvest Songs and actions.

Welcome to the new children in the Reception classes: It was such a privilege for me to drop into school to introduce myself to the children who have just started their school journey. They have settled really quickly and have already made many new friends. We look forward to them, their parents and carers coming up to church later in the term for a special Welcome to our Church Family Service.

LUNTS HEATH CP SCHOOL

Mr Paton has already put dates in the Church Diary for the Advent and Christmas Services and he and staff members are looking at the diary to add some more dates for further visits.

Sue



There is a gentleman who worships with us every Wednesday and he is a most amazing person,

Have you ever wondered who hoovers the carpets, sweeps the aisles and round the pews?

Have you ever wondered who tidies away the small lectern and other things after the Wednesday service?

Have you ever asked yourself who replaces the Red Sanctuary Lamp that burns 24/7 over the Aumbry?

Or who polishes the brass Collection Plates or the Wardens' staffs so that they gleam bright?

Or who washes the silver Communion chalices and pattens?

Or, who sets up the table and chairs for the Games Galore Gang?

This person, who is so kind, unassuming, helpful and willing, who works in quiet and respectful ways, is Stephen Rawlinson.

On behalf of everyone at St Luke's, I would like to thank him for all that he does for us at St Luke's. Stephen you are a STAR and we so appreciate all that you do for us. Sue

WALK OF LIGHT 2024



Last year we held our very first WALK OF LIGHT and we were delighted by the response. A large number of families processed from Farnworth School to join us in a short Service of Thanksgiving to celebrate Jesus being a light in our world; the service also gave us the opportunity to thank the people in our local community who support and help us.

It was a wonderful time of celebration and fellowship and many people stayed afterwards for drinks and hotdogs.

On FRIDAY 6th DECEMBER children from local schools will process from their respective playgrounds with their lights and lanterns and walk to church where the service will start at 6pm.

If you are free, please come along and join us.
Sue



Dates in the diary for Christmas!
Cronton 6th Form College



On Thursday December 12th at 7pm, the students from Cronton 6th Form Performing Arts and Music Departments will once again come to St Luke's to showcase songs from the musical Oliver...and I cannot wait, tickets will be on sale on November 1st...put the date in your diary and PLEASE SUPPORT this concert... we could almost offer you a 'money back guarantee', you will not be disappointed.

This is an evening when we see young local talent at its very best! Tickets £5pp include a welcome drink and, as the students give freely of their time and talents, ALL proceeds will go to our latest Fund Raising Appeal. Sue

Greenalls Brass Band

Greenalls Brass Band are now known as.....

Clock Face Miners Heritage Brass Band

This is yet another evening not to be missed and once again we need you support with, so please invite family and friends to come along to kick start their Christmas season with a wonderful Concert of rousing brass band music. St Luke's Church, Saturday December 7th, at 7.30pm Tickets will be £7pp and include a welcome drink and shortbread. Sue



St Luke's Sunday Club

We hope you all have had a lovely summer. It was very special of course because of the Olympics and Paralympics which were awe inspiring.

It was lovely hearing the children's news of what they had done during the summer holidays.

Some had gone on aeroplanes, some had visited castles. We heard about, swimming pools, caravans, and fairgrounds all very exciting.

Once we had shared all our news the children heard about when Jesus asked "Who do you say that I am? We started off by asking each of the children to tell each other who they thought they were, what they knew about each other. Then we all thought about who they thought Jesus was. They came up with some beautiful answers, one of my favourites from Emilia was "He is the light of the world," which she just shouted out without any prompting. She deserved a high five for that. The children learned that Jesus identified himself as Son of God, Messiah and Saviour. He was asking the question not because he was fishing for compliments but he wanted the disciples to think about their faith. To think for themselves and not follow the crowd. He wants us all to do the same. The children then made a lovely banner, each using their own words of what Jesus meant to them.

Best wishes Lynn



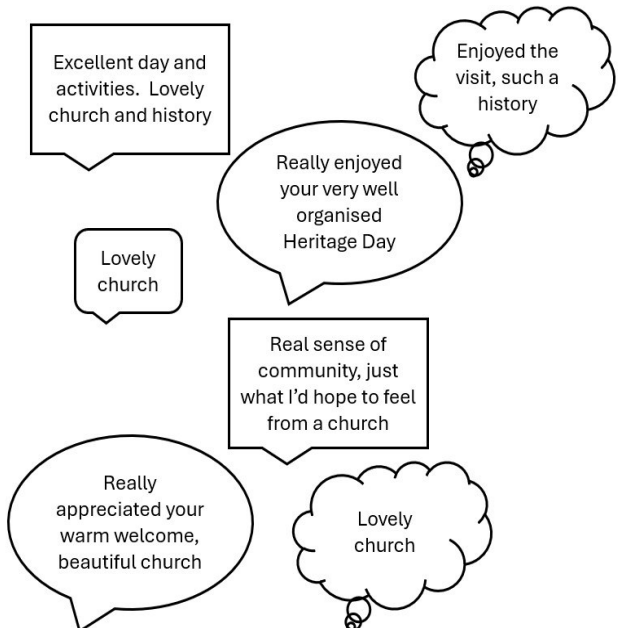
Heritage Open Day

Every September thousands of volunteers across England organise events to celebrate our country's fantastic history and culture. It is a chance to see hidden places and try out new experiences and once again St Luke's Church was proud to be involved. It was an opportunity for people, who came from near and far, to learn about the 900 years' worth of history of our amazing building, with tours of the ancient church building and graveyard; as well as the opportunity to find out more about the history of the area, shared as part of walking tours of the village. At St Luke's we are passionate about our environment too, and so there was also the opportunity to follow the nature trail with quiz round the graveyard, plant bulbs and even make images with photographic paper and leaves. And we were treated to a recital of popular hymns sung by our choir, led by our Director of Music, Paul Delaney, and we had the chance to watch and listen to our church bells being rung by our talented team of bell ringers. There was a small shop to browse at and delicious refreshments, including scrumptious ploughman's lunches, to enjoy.

The weather was good and there was a real buzz and happy atmosphere in the building, with well over 120 people visiting across the day.

Just a few of the lovely messages left in our visitors' book / feedback given to stewards on the day, along with some photos that hopefully also give a bit more insight into the day.

Thank you to everyone who made the event possible and to everyone who came along to explore! £423 was raised. Hope to see you again next year, if not sooner!
Clare







OPEN DOOR WEDNESDAYS

Church will be open for 9.30am service
(30 minutes) until 3pm

People on hand to show you around our
beautiful church and chat to you over a cuppa.

'GAMES GALORE'

Grosvenor Women's club host & provide refreshments

1.30pm to 3pm Wednesdays

Men welcome. Come and join a light hearted group of people who play games - scrabble, chess, dominos, UNO and many more.



Folk getting to know each other and sharing laughter and tales recalling childhood memories of games played. Afternoons are free - donations gratefully accepted for church funds. We look forward to seeing you! Contact Pat Johnson 0151 257 7737

Sunday Club

meets each Sunday of the month, except the second Sunday. (none in August)

10.30am in the Bridewell

For children aged 4 to 11.

We have lots of fun learning about God's Love for us.

Please come and join us.



Sunday School
FOR ALL!



Please contact Lynn 424 3142 for further details

Summer aged 9 says "I like Sunday Club because we do fun activities and learn about God"

Alexis aged 7 says "I love Sunday Club because I like making pictures, doing sticking and playing with my friends"

"I have been going to Sunday Club since I was very little. I've had lots of fun there, drawing and making things and also reading prayers in church. It's been great learning about God" **Luca aged 13**

"I love Sunday Club because I like all the activities we do and learning about being a Christian in a fun way. I like being a role model for the younger children. And talking to the congregation, learning from them. I love performing for them at services. **Charlotte aged 13**





MOTHERS' UNION

Welcome back after your summer break. I hope you caught some sun in between the showers.

I'm sure I can speak for everyone when I say how very sad we were to hear about the passing of Alma; such a lovely lady, a devoted wife, mother and

grandmother. Alma was a long-standing MU member who practised the ethos of the Mothers' Union in her daily life. She was always there, cleaning, making tea, helping out and clearing away, putting others before herself. We will miss her smiling face and kind words. A full church at her funeral showed how much everyone thought of her. Her sons spoke of their loving mother. She had three loves in her life: her beloved late husband, Alan, her family and her faith. We learned of her enjoyment of trains – she travelled everywhere by train. Her granddaughter and sister spoke of their great loss of someone who was always there when needed. They both read poems which were both moving and heartfelt. Now may Alma rest in peace. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family at this difficult time.

18th July was the afternoon of our Garden Party in Church. Prosecco, Nosecco or fruit juice were offered as we arrived. The tables were set with a lovely buffet selection. Colleen said the Grace before we started, using one the late Bernard Dunbar used to say. Hot drinks were served and cakes and scones handed round. A picture quiz of board games was on the table for us to fill in while having our refreshments. This was followed by a general quiz – a good way to keep the grey matter sharp! The afternoon ended with a raffle. The event was enjoyed by all who attended so thank you, Colleen, for organising it and also to the Committee members for the delicious food, and lastly to everyone who supported us.

16th August was the date for our Deanery Social, held once again in the hall at St Ambrose, thanks to Sue. A long table was laden with delicious food. Gladys Holland welcomed everyone and said the MU prayer, followed by the Grace. Our entertainment was provided by singing duo Kat (Colleen's daughter) and Dave. They have sung for us before, so we knew we were in for a good time.



They chose a good mix of songs and we were all tapping our feet, singling along and clapping to the beat. Their joy of singing was truly infectious! They would normally be paid but didn't charge MU so our thanks to them for a great session. We then had three games of bingo with our own "Gala Bingo" caller, Chris, who always makes it good fun. We ended with a raffle with some wonderful prizes. Thank you to everyone for their hard work and the wonderful food and also to everyone who supported the evening.

11th September was our Renewal of Vows (no new members to induct this year) service in Church. Thank you to Sue Smither for providing Holy Communion by Extension, and to Colleen for printing the service sheets. Sue takes a lovely service and always reminds us that the Lord is always there to lift us up when we are down and troubled. Christine read some verses from Psalm 34, again remind us that the Lord hears our cries and delivers us from our troubles. Colleen read the prayers and remembered our members and supporters, past and present. Our hymn was "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind" and was sung "a capella" – no problem for our members who love to sing. Afterwards, as we gathered for our refreshments, a cake was presented to Lesley to mark her 80th birthday. We sang the usual refrain and then the cake was shared amongst us. We did miss Alma's happy face but were very glad to have Jackie back with us again.

Some other notices for people to be aware of, some of which were included in the recent Newsletter circulated to all members:

Due to unexpected cancellations, speakers for October and November are still to be arranged.

For October, Pat Beesley and Sue Connolly are on the tea rota, with Judith Axford and Janet Littler on duty in November.

18th October: Service about Modern Day Slavery in the Lady Chapel at Liverpool Cathedral, starting at 12.00 noon. All welcome.

19th October: MU Council meeting at St James's House, starting at 10.00 am. One of the agenda items will be an update to the Constitution which, if passed, will mean that Presidential and Trustee posts can last longer than the current two lots of three years.

Membership fee in 2025: £30, with £20 for Indoor Members.

End of Triennial/start of the next one:

Sheran Harper finishes at the end of 2024. New Worldwide President will be Kathleen Snow from Canada.

June Houghton finishes her spell this year and there will be a service to mark the occasion at Blackburn Cathedral on 2nd November. If anyone would like to donate to a leaving gift, please let Colleen know. There will be a commissioning service for the new Provincial President later on.

Caroline Collins may be continuing as Diocesan President, if the Constitution changes are agreed.

Colleen should be finishing as Widnes area Trustee but, again, may be able to continue, depending on the proposed changes and our members are agreeable.

25th November: Service for 16 Days of Activism against Domestic Violence, at the Cathedral at 12.00 noon. Would anyone wishing to attend please pass their names to Colleen who can then book them in for the lunch. Colleen is also happy to offer to lifts.

Other dates will be advertised in the next magazine. So now just a prayer for Autumn:

For all the rich autumnal glories spread, the flaming pageant of the ripening woods, the fiery gorse, heather-purple hills, the rustling leaves that fly before the wind: We thank you, Lord. Amen.

Rita

BAPTISMS

21st July	Esme Joan Donlan	Theo Ian Filson
	Nola May Edwards	
15th Sept	Charlotte May Wrycraft	Albert Peter Lindberg

You're taking this step of faith. In obedience to the Lord
 To be baptized in His precious name, And heed the Masters call
 To rise up with faith in God. And go where He may lead
 To share God's love to everyone, And touch them in their need
 May God pour out His blessings Upon your life today
 So you may walk in His abundance, As you commit to Him your way
 Keep on trusting in the Lord. No matter what you face
 And keep your eyes on Jesus Christ, And live in His sweet grace. By M.S.Lowndes



Sunday December 1st 10.30am TOY COLLECTION SERVICE



We would be more than grateful for donations of new, unwrapped Toys and Gifts for children and young adults that we will once again send to the Kings Cross Christmas Project for them to distribute to local families in need. They are always so grateful for your generosity. Sue

JAM Club September – Be a light in the world



In our Bible story we heard about Jesus thinking about hiding things. “Supposing you had a lamp to give you light in the darkness, would you hide it under a bowl?” His followers said “No, that would be silly!”

Jesus went on to ask, “So what would you do with the lamp?”

His followers answered, “We’d put it where everyone could see it and the whole room would be full of light.”

Jesus was pleased with the answer, and he said, “You can be like light for the whole world. When you do good things, everyone is pleased, just as they are when they see the light when it’s dark. They thank God that you are kind and loving, and you fill the world with happiness.” We thought about what this meant, we placed a light under a bowl and then we got the light out and placed it on top of the bowl, this was much better! Then we made and decorated our own lanterns with battery tealights to remind us to ‘let our light shine’. And of course, we finished our worship time sharing toast and jam – the

perfect end to an afternoon of light and happiness! Can you do what is right and be a light for the world, ‘let your light shine’ and reflect God’s love?
Clare



FABRIC REPORT



The fundraising is continuing for the Toilet project, and I can confirm that we have recently received confirmation of a grant from the Beatrice Laing Trust of £4000. Unfortunately, we have been unsuccessful with our bid to National Churches Trust, which was very disappointing. The application was submitted on our behalf by Halton Borough Council, and they haven't received any reason why we were

unsuccessful with our bid, apart from commenting on the fact that there were a lot of applicants after a small pot of money.

A large part of the cost of the toilet project is classed as a being for the fabric (ie a bit like having an extension on your home) and most of the grants are being awarded for community or eco projects. We were advised about this point by the Beatrice Laing Trust, as our grant from them is from their "building, extension and redevelopment funds". We will continue discussions with Halton Borough Council for other suitable grants for us to apply for, and to look for ones for fabric.

We have recently received a generous donation towards the toilet fund of £15,000 and at the time of writing this report, the amount that we still require for this project is £50,854.

Just to remind you that the cost of this project is £202,041 net of VAT..

All of the funds raised by Patsy Clifford, for her "sky dive" in support of our Toilet Fund, have been banked and I can report that a total of **£3,046.34** was raised by her. Congratulations Patsy, and Thank You.

Barry Horabin

Treasurer’s Report, 01/01/24 to 31/08/2024

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Adjust</u>	<u>Total</u>
Receipts	54,487	0	54,487
Expenses	(35,031)	(48,168)	(83,199)
Surplus/ (Deficit)	19,456	(48,168)	(28,712)

The adjusted figure for expenses relates to the amount outstanding for Parish share for the eight months to August 2024, yet again we have not been able to pay anything for this year. We have paid the Diocese so far in this current year £22,000, which will be off set against our outstanding amount for 2023 which was £56,000. Unless we receive any grants from the church commissioners, or other funds, I can’t see us clearing our outstanding debt from 2023, and nothing towards 2024 figure of £72,252. in this current year

All of your donations help, so please give what you can afford either in church or as below.

It is so easy to set up a payment with the Parish Giving scheme, you only have to pick up the phone and call: **-0333 002 1260** and Quote our unique church code **220622101** .

One off donations can also be made this way, pick up a leaflet in church or as below

By transfer. Barclays

Account name:- Farnworth St Luke Parochial Church Council

Sort code 20 91 48

Account no 30369292 .

Your name as reference.

By cheque payable to St Luke’s PCC

c/o Mrs Yvonne Horabin,

12 Buckingham Avenue,

Widnes WA8 9EP

For donations towards fundraising for the Toilets in church, please state that it is for the Fabric fund

Thank You Yvonne Horabin (Treasurer)



If you have any ideas for Fund raising please let Yvonne know.
Thank you

NEWS from ST Ambrose church



At a special service on Monday September 2nd, Rev Canon Peter Dawkin welcomed Janice Farrell as a Reader in St Ambrose Church. Janice had previously been a Reader at St Mary's, Hale, but had decided that the time was right for her to move to a new church with fresh challenges. Friends from St Mary's Hale, along with members of the congregations of each of the three churches of the East Widnes Team and other churches in the Deanery, came along to welcome and support her.

Janice chose the readings, Psalm 121 and John 14:25-27, both which reflected the deep sense of her faith and calling. She also chose the hymns, 'In Christ alone', 'Brother, sister let me serve you', 'The Lord's my shepherd' and 'Now thank we all our God'. I preached and spoke about what a privilege it is to be called to serve God and his people through Lay Ministry in each of our churches. Many people stayed afterwards to chat over refreshments. We offer Janice our blessings and very best wishes for her future at St Ambrose and look forward to welcoming her to Team Services. *Sue*

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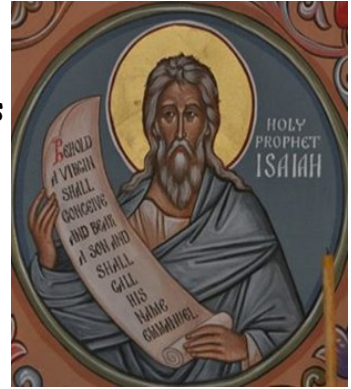
For the password please contact Sue 07962012916

To listen to service with Zoom from landline or mobile dial 02036950088 enter password



BIBLE READINGS

Isaiah is one of the most well-known prophets in the Bible for his predictions of the coming of the Messiah, the One who would redeem his people from their sins. It is a book of stark contrasts, from terrifying warnings of judgement and destruction to uplifting promises of hope and prosperity. These daily readings will take you through to the season of Advent. Sue



Day 1 Isaiah 1:1–9

Day 2 Isaiah 1:10–20

Day 3 Isaiah 1:21–31

Day 4 Isaiah 2:1–4

Day 5 Isaiah 2:5–21

Day 6 Isaiah 2:22–4:1

Day 7 Isaiah 4:2–6

Day 8 Isaiah 5:1–7

Day 9 Isaiah 5:8–30

Day 10 Isaiah 6:1–13

Day 11 Isaiah 7:1–17

Day 12 Isaiah 7:18–8:8

Day 13 Isaiah 8:9–22

Day 14 Isaiah 9:1–7

Day 15 Isaiah 9:8–10:4

Day 16 Isaiah 10:5–34

Day 17 Isaiah 11:1–16

Day 18 Isaiah 12:1–6

Day 19 Isaiah 13:1–22

Day 20 Isaiah 14:1–32

Day 21 Isaiah 15:1–16:14

Day 22 Isaiah 17:1–18:7

Day 23 Isaiah 19:1–20:6

Day 24 Isaiah 21:1–17

Day 25 Isaiah 22:1–25

Day 26 Isaiah 23:1–18

Day 27 Isaiah 24:1–20

Day 28 Isaiah 24:21–25:12

Day 29 Isaiah 26:1–21

Day 30 Isaiah 27:1–13

Day 31 Isaiah 28:1–29

Day 32 Isaiah 29:1–14

Day 33 Isaiah 29:15–24

Day 34 Isaiah 30:1–33

Day 35 Isaiah 31:1–32:20

Day 36 Isaiah 33:1–24

Day 37 Isaiah 34:1–17

Day 38 Isaiah 35:1–10

Day 39 Isaiah 36:1–22
Day 40 Isaiah 37:1–38
Day 41 Isaiah 38:1–20
Day 42 Isaiah 38:21–39:8
Day 43 Isaiah 40:1–11
Day 44 Isaiah 40:12–31
Day 45 Isaiah 41:1–20
Day 46 Isaiah 41:21–42:17
Day 47 Isaiah 42:18–43:21
Day 48 Isaiah 43:22–44:23
Day 49 Isaiah 44:24–45:7
Day 50 Isaiah 45:8–25
Day 51 Isaiah 46:1–13
Day 52 Isaiah 47:1–15
Day 53 Isaiah 48:1–22
Day 54 Isaiah 49:1–13

Day 55 Isaiah 49:14–50:3
Day 56 Isaiah 50:4–11
Day 57 Isaiah 51:1–16
Day 58 Isaiah 51:17–52:12
Day 59 Isaiah 52:13–53:12
Day 60 Isaiah 54:1–17
Day 61 Isaiah 55:1–13
Day 62 Isaiah 56:1–12
Day 63 Isaiah 57:1–21
Day 64 Isaiah 58:1–14
Day 65 Isaiah 59:1–19
Day 66 Isaiah 59:20–60:22
Day 67 Isaiah 61:1–62:12
Day 68 Isaiah 63:1–14
Day 69 Isaiah 63:15–64:12
Day 70 Isaiah 65:1–25
Day 71 Isaiah 66:1–24

Widnes Deanery Readers



I thought that you might like to know a little bit about Widnes Deanery Readers or Licensed Lay Ministers as we are sometimes known. After a long period of study, Readers hold a special Licence delegated to us by the Bishop of Liverpool but it doesn't end there. Annually, we have to complete a self-evaluation review with our incumbents and submit an annual Statistical Return, the information and details of the services we cover, give the diocese, and the National Church, an overview of the ministries we undertake. When we complete these forms, there is opportunity to reflect on past work and

set development goals for the next year and also ensure that we, and our incumbents, have a chance to reflect on our working relationship. We are 'required', as a condition of our Licence, to undertake compulsory annual training and of course comply with all Safeguarding training. Many of us are heavily involved in not only the worship, but also in the lives of our churches beyond anything we originally envisaged. Widnes Readers meet together as a Chapter of Readers to support each another in our very specific roles. Each meeting begins with a short time of worship; we give the latest news of what is going on in each of our churches and confidentially share any personal concerns we may have. Local clergy, and occasionally representatives from Liverpool Diocese, join us to tell us of the latest initiatives in the Church of England. We value this time we spend together knowing. We are proud to wear our distinctive blue Reader scarves and Reader badges as we serve God and the congregations in our respective churches. I am privileged to be Chaplain and chair of Reader meetings; currently my colleagues in Widnes are Chris Holleran, Janice Farrell, Steve Farrell, Lesley Firth, Clare Liptrott, Clare Moss and Steve Shuttleworth. If you would like to explore whether God is calling you to Reader Ministry, or indeed any other role within the church, please do not hesitate to ask. Sue

FUNERAL REGISTER			
Date	Name	Age	Location
05.07.24	Hazel Robertson	89	Widnes Crem
23.07.24	Doreen Elizabeth Hill	74	St Luke & BURIAL Peel House
19.08.24	Brian William Pennefather	93	Widnes Crem
21.08.24	John Michael Bond	77	Widnes Crem
09.09.24	Sarah Elizabeth Wright	87	St Luke & Crem
10.09.24	Alma Marshall	90	St Luke & Crem
24.09.24	Melvyn Gunby	86	St Luke & Burial
27.09.24	Brian Thomas Grady	75	St Luke Crem

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Clare Liptrott 07976549410
Lesley Firth 07803148233**

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