

Issue No 79 Sunday 8th July 2018

Services & events this week

Sunday 8th

Young Church 11 am Charlton

Penton Fete 1 pm

Encounters - Lydia 6.30 pm Charlton

Tuesday 10th Messy Church 3 pm Smannell

Wednesday 11th Goldies 1.30 pm Charlton all welcome

In your Prayers please pray for.....

The children caught in the caves in Thailand, may they be rescued safely, and those who are working to get them out kept safe.

The emergency services who are working hard on the moors to keep the fires at bay

Those who are known to us that are under the weather or not doing well in this hot weather.

Words of Encouragement

By Revd Alex

Embracing Change

I wonder if you are a person of habit? Or perhaps you struggle with the notion of change? Sometimes, we can get so locked into our routines that they seem unstoppable. Even some of our day-to-day expressions, like how “you can’t teach an old dog new tricks,” express our conviction that after a certain point, what has been will be, and nothing can change that.

As we examine the scriptures we often see that this was the default position of the Pharisees.

The Pharisees were always utterly convinced that what they were accustomed to is how things must always be and were always ready to challenge Jesus’ authority. We can see a good example of this in Mark 11, ‘As he was walking in the temple, the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders came to him and said, “By what authority are you doing these things? Who gave you this authority to do them?” In his responses, Jesus does not act with tired, human authority, but points these nay-sayers to the divine love of God, who always desires to refresh and bring newness and joy to our faith.

In this year of pondering about what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ, I wonder if we are truly willing to make changes to make our churches more open to people, to try new things and to risk moving out of our comfort zones to embrace that divine love of God?

No matter how old we are, God can still do new things with us, in spite of what the Pharisees say. How can we embrace the newness God offers us today in our own lives?

Blessings for the week ahead.

Services & events next week

Sunday 15th Reflections Tangleby 6 pm

Monday 16th

FOST Tea & Natter 2.30 pm Charlton

Messy church 3 pm Hatherden

Advance notice – there will be no Encounters service on the 12th August.

Pastrow & Community Diary Dates

Sunday 8th Penton Fete 1 pm on the sports ground

Sunday 22nd Weyhill Family Fun Day noon – 4 pm behind the Weyhill Fair pub.

Email prayer requests to
prayer@pastrowbenefice.org.uk

Readings This Week

2 Sam 5 1 – 5, 9 – 10

Ps 48

2 Cor 12 2 – 10

Mark 6 1 - 13

Next Week

2 Sam 6 1 – 5 12b – 19

Ps 24

Eph 1 3 – 14

Mark 6 14 - 29

Pastrow Pilgrimage Saturday 8th September

All are welcome to join us, sponsorship forms will be out soon alternatively sponsor us as a group on our Just Giving page.

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/pastrow-pilgrimage>