

Issue No 109 Sunday 3rd February 2019

Services & events this week

Wednesday 6th Holy Communion 9.30 am HBT & 10 am Tangley

Saturday 9th Breakfast @ 9 - "Is there anything wrong with sex before marriage?" Charlton 9 am

Benefice Quiz 7 pm Charlton call Jude to book in your team, it is open to everyone.

Services & events next week

Sunday 10th – Young Church 11 am Charlton Encounters 6.30 pm Charlton

Tuesday 12th – Messy church Smannell 3 – 5 pm

Wednesday 13th Holy Communion 9.30 am HBT & 10 am Tangley
Goldies 2 pm Charlton

Can you help...

I would like some Lego for our new 'Family Play and Praise' for an activity area for some older children. (Must be Lego, not Duplo) If you have any that you would be willing to donate or loan, please can you contact me on 07421 354874 Many thanks, Sue Smale

Readings This Week

Ezek 43.27 – 44.4

Ps 48

I Cor. Ch. 13

Luke 2 22 - 40

Next Week

Isa 6 1 – 8 [9 – end]

Ps 138

I Cor 15 1 – 11

Luke 5 1 - 11

In your Prayers please pray for.....

All those affected by the severe winter weather

Our emergency services as they do their everyday jobs, may they stay safe

Those we know who are dealing with bereavement or coming to terms with serious diagnosis, may Gods love, and strength be with them at this tenuous time

Pastrow & Community Diary Dates

Benefice Quiz Saturday 9th February 7 pm
Tickets £10 inc supper, max 6 per team call Jude 07999 352585 to book tickets.

Exploring the Bible – have you booked on yet? see flyers in church or previous issues of the grapevine for full information.

The Late Valentines Dinner! With talk by Jill Bentall Saturday 23rd February 7 pm The Fairground Weyhill tickets £10 inc 3 course supper (bring your own drink). To book call Jude 07999 352585

Notes from Pastrow Admin

Last week I sent out 2 forms an initial information and electoral roll form, please take the time to fill out both to help update our database and electoral roll lists. To enable the system to work please ensure you tick which church you attend. Thank you

Words of Encouragement

By Sue Smale

Alex asked me to write these words of encouragement to introduce myself to you and tell you something of my background, as I take on the role of children and family minister in the Benefice.

'Blowing my own trumpet' is not something I am terribly comfortable with! Please read the following as a description of how God has used me over the last 27 years to minister to children, young people and families in various churches. Please give the glory to God!

I started working part time with children and young people in our church in Guernsey back in 1992. I soon found a passion for helping children and young people here about Jesus. Over the next six years the numbers of children and young people grew to over 160, through Sunday groups, youth club, children's club, after school club and two toddler groups.

While at theological college in Oxford, I covered maternity leave for a children and family worker in Oxford. From 2000-2004 I worked again as a children and youth worker, growing the numbers of children and young people and families attending church in Overton.

On moving to Sussex in 2004, we found only one little boy in one of our three churches and felt the urgent need for some children's ministry. By the time we left we had 12 children attending regularly, with parents attending church and an annual holiday club for about 30 children. That little boy now helps lead family services!

Back to Overton in 2008. Children and family worker again! We revamped the children's club - I remember that first night having over 50 children come, and having to send out for helpers, crisps and sausages! Thankfully numbers settled to about 30.

Starting Messy Church brought in new faces, with about 20 families coming regularly. For 9 years we ran a holiday club in the summer holidays, which was very popular - between 40 and 80 children.

I really thought I had reached my 'sell-by date' about three years ago after a double hip replacement - but no! The passion is still there! And children and families still need Jesus!