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Keeping Contact

The Benefice of Faversham

Volume 2, Issue 1

February 2021

From Revd. Simon

Dear Parishioners,

COVID, I wanted to simply write that the word has been mentioned and let us move on. But it is not that simple as I am aware of families grieving for loved ones who have died and others struggling with mental health issues and yet others trying to make sense of the financial impact on daily lives. Our churches remain closed and I do not anticipate them opening until March. This will be kept under review.

Let us continue then to support one another and be fully involved in prayer in the hope that is the passage which I will constantly refer to this year John 1.5.

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it."

We are approaching Lent with Ash Wednesday being the 17th of the month. We will host a recorded Lenten reflection online, so please keep an eye on our Facebook pages. As I think of Lent I am always reminded of Mark's Gospel. The important turning point is Mark 8:29. When Jesus asks Peter, "Who do you say that I am?"

We need to remember that we think Mark's principle source for his Gospel is Peter. Mark (we think the young John Mark mentioned in Acts 12.12) interprets Peter's recollections of the story or Good news of Jesus. Mark at the beginning of his Gospel tells us who Jesus is in the very first verse, "The beginning of the good news

of Jesus Christ, the Son of God". Yet he goes on with the story of Jesus with his disciples not recognizing who this Jesus is in front of them. Demonic spirits recognize Jesus but not the disciples. That is until the pivotal point of the Gospel at Mark 8.29 when Jesus asks Peter 'But who do you say that I am?' Peter answered him, 'You are the Messiah.' With this revelation Jesus turns towards Jerusalem and we move to the climax of the Good News of Jesus, his death and resurrection. Are we like the disciples in the bustle of busy lives and lose sense of who Jesus is to us? Mark's Gospel is very immediate and a human drama with disciples shown as very human individuals. In either preparing to enter Lent or for use in Lent itself, can I direct you to read slowly Mark's Gospel. Can I invite you to share with another person what portions of the Gospel you find helpful or stand out as unusual? Maybe you can find another parishioner you can share texts or messages with as you read it separately but together. This Gospel tells the Good News of our hope in Jesus Christ, it is central to who we are as Christians, lets re- acquaint ourselves with the Jesus who reaches out to each one of us as the light shining in the darkness, for in the Christ light we find our hope.

Every blessing

Simon.

The Challenges
of planning
services

Trustees
needed!

Lent
Study stuff
Make your Lent
count for
something
more than
giving up
Crème Eggs

Church Service & COVID

Latest on Church Closures re COVID

The Vicar and all four churches Church Wardens met week beginning 18th January to discuss the ongoing closure of our four churches. We anticipate the churches remaining closed for all of February with the hope we can open for Easter.

We will meet again towards the end of February to review the situation. Church access in a pastoral emergency for prayer can be requested via the Vicar.

Local Charities in need of Trustees

Two of our longstanding Charities in the town are looking for Trustees. Do you feel this is for you?

FACE who support people that are financially challenged or disabled with gardening, decorating and small odd jobs.



Faversham Umbrella the local mental health charity. Who are here to support everyone with long term and short term needs.

Please contact Miranda for further details on 01795 227202 or trig-pointx@gmail.com

Get the lowdown on Lent

The wonderful Primrose Northrop has produced an excellent guide to some of the best Lent resources available this year. In it, she reviews a range of great Lent resources suitable for groups and individuals.

For more details go to the link below to check it out - and to find out more about the resources that are available from the national Church, too.

<https://canterburydiocese.org/lent>

then follow the links

Church Services
across the
Benefice.

Churches may
have different
booking
arrangements!

Weekly services continue, during current lockdown, on YouTube.



YouTube :

Faversham Benefice



Email:

4favershamchurches@gmail.com



Telephone:

01795 532592

Bless you all!



SINGALONG SOUNDS is live each Thursday at
5.30pm.

See you there and invite anyone you think would
like to join in feel-good parody songs of faith and
hope!

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/6884608849...>

Meeting ID: 688 460 8849

Passcode: Singalong

**The Benefice
Community
&
Mission Priest
shares some
insights on what
our young
people feel
about
Faversham.**

From Dan Corcoran our Community and Mission Priest

"There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children" wrote Nelson Mandela. So it's been a privilege to minister with our wonderful schools and groups since being in Faversham. At the same time conducting research about how our young people feel about their town and their lives in general, mainly for Faversham's Neighbourhood Plan. I thought it would be helpful to present a snapshot of these results here.

We had fun exploring the following questions using Lego, Playdoh, pens and Post-it notes:

Q: "What do you like about Faversham?"

Family, friendships and friendliness are obviously important to young people. "Everyone is quite sociable, especially...at the market" (Year 7 pupil). A primary pupil remarked Faversham is "very kind-hearted". A secondary school council celebrated Faversham's safe community concluding it was a "nice area to grow up".

Faversham's sporting facilities are appreciated: swimming pool, gym club, Judo Club and the improved Recreation Ground. Faversham's history was often celebrated: Magna Carta, architecture, how "there are still parts that aren't modern". Also mentioned were Faversham's Library, festivals, carnival, walks, pond, Creek, trees, greenery, woodland, marshland, low pollution levels, Market, Macknade, Ossie's, cinema, sweetshops, Ask, bakeries, cafes and small businesses. Some would prefer to see more big national retailers but transport links were said to be good to other towns and cities.

Q: "What would you improve?"

Cleaning graffiti, vandalism, litter, dog poo, anti-social behaviour, traffic, pollution, cycle lanes,

public services, mental health services.

Safe activities, brighter spaces, CCTV, Police presence.

Affordable, youth-friendly cafes, clothes shops, transport.

"Groups like this" to voice opinions

Solar panels on buildings, recycling.

Less need for school journeys to other towns

Other suggestions: zoo, go-kart track, bike racks.

Q: "What would make you live in Faversham in the future?"

Responses focused on the uncertainties regarding Faversham's growth. Would there be adequate services in a changing Faversham i.e. schools, healthcare, safe and secure activities and spaces for young people, safe and clean roads, affordable shops and venues, environmental priorities, preservation of historic architecture, accessibility for all and acceptance of diversity?

Q: "What would increase your sense of wellbeing in Faversham?"

As well as increased mental health care resources to reduce waiting times, respondents made the link between the availability of sport and activities and wellbeing - how youth activities help in terms of "guidance in how to actually live - preparation for the real world." (Secondary school pupil).

This research is an ongoing process as we discuss the future of provision for local children and young people with different agencies. Many thanks to all schools, clubs and young people for their thoughtful, caring, community-focused and inclusive responses. Society feels in safe hands as we continue exploring Faversham's future together.

Dan Corcoran

**Churches
Together
in
Faversham
Easter Plans**

**Greetings
from
the 'back office'**

Churches Together in Faversham

Churches Together in Faversham –
Easter Card

At the January meeting of the leadership and representatives of Churches Together in Faversham agreed that we will produce and deliver an Easter Card.

This will be similar format to the Christmas Card that CTiF sends to every household in the town.

At this difficult time it is even more important to remind our community of the Good News of the risen Jesus.

This requires funding and it would be great if you are able to contribute, either via your church or individually to help to cover the costs.

If you are able to help, do send your contributions, by 15th February if possible, to our Treasurer Dennis Parrett, 16 Hilton Close, Faversham ME13 8NN

Or direct to

Churches together in Faversham.

- Bank sort code: 090151
- Account number: 78769401.

Thank you for supporting our efforts

Sarah Williams

Chairman, Churches Together in Faversham

Keeping Contact— a change of name.

Well we survived Christmas,

From now on the publication will be known as **Keeping Contact** . This matches up with what appears elsewhere on Benefice stuff.

Other excitement is that we have replaced the ageing software with the latest available.

Hopefully this will mean an even better electronic experience and the facility to post the magazine onto our websites.

- If we are to continue then we need articles. Things that interest you and more importantly our reader might enjoy.
- Generally, closing date for articles is 0900 on the last Monday of the month. Next month copy date is 22nd February!
- Send copy as a word

document to the email below. Please, unless you have warned the editor not pdf or jpg files. They make editing very difficult.

- There is always the reliable and traditional paper, pass that to your warden— it will find its way to the editor.
- We would like reaction and engagement with our reader. Drop the editor an email, he does get lonely.
- Any suggestions about getting more subscribers. It must be amazing value at the price and in colour.
- Do tell your Church Warden if there is anyone who might appreciate the paper or electronic copy.

Articles to: BeneficeofFaversham+Contact@gmail.com

Getting to know you

Hello my name is Dennis Parrett and I worship both at St Mary of Charity and St Catherine's Churches. I am married to Rev Ros.



I was Churchwarden at St Mary's before Simon arrived and this covered the interregnum and his time abroad. I found this time most interesting and challenging and a privilege to serve God and his people in this way.

belonged to the Salvation Army. But for me over the years it has been personal contact and the friendly approach of Christians. David Sheppard, the former Sussex and England cricketer and Bishop of Liverpool, said in his first book "Adults have come to the Church in ones and twos, never as far as I know

from seeing a notice board, but always through personal contact". I empathise with that.

I was baptised at St Wilfred's Church Brighton, sadly no longer in use as a church. I have a long association working with young people and much can be experienced from this.

3 What do you like most about your home church?

With regard to St Mary of Charity, I like the choral music and the flexibility of the building which lends itself to children's' activities. For some years now I, along with others, have run a Thursday group called Little Fishes with about 30 children of pre-school age plus parents and minders. We have play, snacks and stories and songs with a religious content. Covid has meant we have had to cease activity.

St Catherine's Church is of a high church tradition and reminds me very much of my youth in Brighton. I must have been about 6 when I was taken by neighbours, to All Souls Church Kemp Town (The church is now demolished) I was soon pulled into the choir although my singing voice has never been great. I enjoyed the youth club. The picture below is possibly at Easter and I am in the front, the second

1 How long have you lived in Faversham, have you ever lived anywhere else?

I lived in Faversham from 1978 to 1991 and returned again after my wife and I both retired. I was born in Brighton Sussex. Previously we lived in Upper Beeding West Sussex, Reigate Surrey, Milton Keynes, and Sandhurst Berkshire.

We moved to Reigate when I was promoted and a further promotion to District Inspector in charge of Sittingbourne tax office took us to Faversham. I then moved into the field of investigation and was based in London eventually having offices in the north of England.

We moved to Milton Keynes and Sandhurst when Ros took up stipendiary ministry.

2 How did you come to your faith?

I think this can be simply stated as a gradual immersion in the Christian faith starting with my days in Brighton – see 3 below. My parents did not go to Church although past members of the Parrett family

Getting to know you

Each month a member of a different Church will answer 5 questions

—

A way of getting to know people across the Benefice.

More from
Dennis

Getting to know you... contd.



boy from the left. Matins, afternoon Sunday school and Evensong were the order of the day. The Church was very much of a high church tradition with incense, holy water sprinkled over the congregation. Solemn evensong and benediction fascinated me with three priests laying prostrate on the steps to the altar. The Church was full at Christmas and we performed a nativity play (two performances) which was also taken out to a nursing home. We all had proper make up on as well as suitable clothing. I was confirmed at this Church.

I went to a Church School called St Mary's but not connected to All Souls. I first read a lesson at St Mary's on Ascension Day after which we had the rest of the day off.

It was no surprise that we found our way to St Catherine's in 1991 where I became crucifer and also Treasurer. When my wife trained for the ministry she was placed in the Selling parishes.

4 What's your favourite hymn or chorus?

I am not sure that I have a particular favourite and it often depends upon the quality of music. But I like "Be still for the presence of the Lord". I also

like Silent Night, not just because of Christmas.

Be still and know that I am God based on Psalm 46 is a song for Zion, God's holy city where his people dwell with him—the city is holy because God dwells in it. This psalm is all about security with God; that God is our true home.

A very infectious and popular song is "You shall go out with joy" (Trees of the Field) The music is of a Jewish style and one that I particularly like.

5 What is your favourite bit of the Bible and why?

A blueprint for the Christian life is contained in St Paul's letters but I suppose 1 Corinthians 14 is well worth a read since I think it sets out the concept of ensuring that people are not more important than others. We are all equal in the eyes of God and it is vital that we encourage new Christians with love and understanding. St Paul speaks about the gift of love in Chapter 13.

Dennis

Catriona is our Benefice Administrator. She shares her take on the Furlough situation

The Furlough Hokey-Cokey

2020 was never going to be an easy year.

My mum died in November 2019 and part of my job ceased to exist in January, so I was working fewer days a week. Still, this gave me spare time to clear my mum's remaining things and clean my parents' home. At the end of January, I helped a friend move house and started thinking about supplementing my income.

A month later my brother was rushed into hospital in the States.

By this time, we were aware there was a virus on the other side of the world, that a whole town in China was quarantined, but in Europe it seemed like we were untouchable. Until we weren't.

By mid-March we were told to work from home, so I saved online folders onto a spare hard drive and borrowed the office copy of the Lectionary. At the end of March, we locked-down and the government announced their furlough scheme.

At the time of writing, I am on my third furlough. Some people seem worried about being furloughed. For me it has been a relief - the Benefice would not have been able to continue paying my salary; their income is vastly reduced. Since most



services are suspended I have very little to do. They have not had to lay me off and I have not had to negotiate the nightmare that is Universal Credit.

The first furlough I made myself a list of things to do. I did some of them, but was mostly in the garden, weeding and painting my shed. I was under house arrest, so had time to consider mum and grieve (although there's no set time-limit for that). I spent hours scanning old photos I had taken from mum's cupboards (until my scanner worked to rule).

When the second furlough came, I took out my list and ... did none of the things on it. For the third furlough I decided not to set myself tasks!

The worst thing about the furlough is returning and trying to work out what has been happening. Which weddings and christenings were postponed or cancelled, how had the guidelines for everything changed this week.

Like everyone, I found the loss of human contact hard (I miss the Wednesday gang). Who knows how long this will last, but we have to have faith, keep a distance, and wash our hands!

Catriona

The Crème Egg—the Maths.

The Creme Egg contains a lot of sugar. 26g of which are sugar. It's a chocolate egg with fondant. This is a paste made of sugar and water, while chocolate is made of cocoa, cocoa butter, and, you guessed it, sugar. For the record a Cadbury Creme Egg these days weighs 34g,

Going rate is 50p – that makes the sugar worth 40p.

That means that you are paying about £14.50 per kilogram for the sugar!

The Crème Egg scandal. Getting smaller and an ever more expensive way to buy sugar.

Online Week of Accompanied Prayer for Lent

Online Week
of
Accompanied
Prayer
for
Lent



Week of Accompanied PRAYER

21 – 27 February 2021

The week runs from the opening service on Zoom at 3.30 pm 21st February to a closing celebration at 9.30 am on the following Saturday.

The Aim of the Week

To introduce people to a different way of praying
To encourage participants to practice this way of praying
To encourage participants to reflect on how this way of praying is enabling them to come closer to God ... or not

What happens?

Each day from 9.00 – 9.30 there will be an introduction to a different way of praying by Chris Chapman, of the Diocesan Pathways to Prayer.

We invite you to set aside half an hour each day for prayer. This may mean setting aside the normal routine of prayers you do, and may mean trying to minimize other commitments.

You will be assigned a Prayer Guide who will be in contact with you each day of the retreat, on phone, or using computer – which-ever is most convenient for you.

All conversations are confidential (with the exception of any safeguarding issue raised, in which case Diocesan safeguarding advice will be adhered to).

Application Form on the bottom of page 10

Please complete the form, and return before 12 February.

Spaces will be limited.

Online Week of Accompanied Prayer for Lent Guides give their time freely and at this time expenses are lower than they would be if we were travelling to a church. We welcome donations towards the running costs, suggested donation at this time is £10.

However, we invite people to give as they are able, and if a donation is beyond your means then do still apply and the costs will be covered for you.

Cheques made payable to 'Weeks of Accompanied Prayer' to Janet McDonald, 4 Becketts Wood, Upstreet, Canterbury CT3 4DQ
or Bank transfer: A/c No. 20961302 Sort Code 20-17-92

Getting out
and about can
be good for us.

Also focus us
on the wonder
of creation that
surrounds

APPLICATION

Online Week of
Accompanied
Prayer for Lent

21st—27th
February

Reflection on a January morning.

This week (17th January) the vagaries of our weather reflected the wonders of God's creation.

No sooner had Storm Christoph whose winds and driving rain, had wreaked havoc in Yorkshire and Lancashire and closer to home, contributed to a landslip on the railway line at Newington, departed for a Scandinavian holiday than 22nd January brought forward a beautiful day.

The early morning frost dispersed by mid -morning to leave a bright and clear day, with a virtually cloudless sky in which the Sun shone brightly. The



day was more reminiscent of Spring than Winter.

Walking around the lanes of Brogdale and Belmont, the birds were in full song and there was clear evidence in the flowers and trees that buds are starting to

form and although there may still be some bad weather to come winter is passing.

The seasons are like life they come and go, but throughout it all our creator is ever present.

Graham Dorkins.

APPLICATION - Online Week of Accompanied Prayer for Lent

Lent Week of Accompanied Prayer / 21 – 27 February 2021

Name

Phone

Email

Preferred time of day during which you and your Prayer Guide could arrange to talk for about 30 minutes, at the same time each day.

Please circle all that are convenient

Morning (11.00 – 12.30) Afternoon (2.00 – 5.00) Evening (6.30 – 8.00)

Have you taken part in a WAP before? Yes / No

Are you comfortable using Zoom? Yes / No

Before 12th February please send this form with the suggested donation of £10 to Janet McDonald, 4 Becketts Wood, Upstreet, Canterbury CT3 4DQ

Cheques payable to 'Weeks of Accompanied Prayer' or Bank transfer: A/c No. 20961302 Sort Code 20-17-92

What are COP 15 and COP 26 and why is their success so urgent?

God's creation is in danger and humanity is facing two emergencies at once.

Ecosystems on which we depend for food, water, local climate, health, shelter, and more have been badly damaged world-wide, with some already showing signs of collapse.

Simultaneously, burning fossil fuels is fast warming our planet, and destabilising the climate that has allowed human civilisation to flourish.

There has been an enormous loss of biodiversity globally, and the UK has become one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world. One chilling statistic looks at comparative weights of land vertebrates in the world today: 32% is humans, 67% is livestock and just 1% is wild animals. We lose animals and plants when we destroy their habitats, or remove food supplies. Deforestation is a major cause of habitat loss, but the destruction of any natural area for building, mining or farming has similar effects. Trawling or dredging destroys habitats at the bottom of the sea.

The climate crisis continued unabated in 2020. The world hit the joint highest temperature on record, there were heat waves and wildfires in the Arctic, and a record 29 tropical storms in the Atlantic. The average temperature across the planet in 2020 was 1.25°C higher than in the pre-industrial period 1850-1900. And 2020 was not unique – the last 6 years have been the hottest six on record. Climate change also weakens or destroys habitats by warming seas or drying up streams, rivers, the land. Molluscs have disappeared from the Eastern Mediterranean because they could not tolerate the warmer waters, and coral reefs are dying for the same reason.

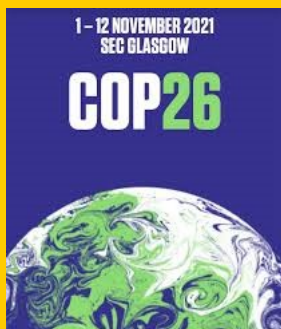
Sadly, the two threats make each other worse.

Hosea 4 v1a, v3:- The Lord has an accusation to bring against the people who live on this land. Listen to what he says "..... And so the land will dry up and everything that lives on it will die. All the animals and birds, and even fish, will die."

**Pray for COP 15 the International Biodiversity Conference
in China October 2021**

**Pray for COP 26 the International Climate Change conference
in Scotland in November 2021**

Iris & Claire



COP 15

&

COP26

**Why they matter
to us all?**

What you can do.

Archbishop
Justin on
COVID
vaccine

Archbishop Justin and COVID

As a volunteer member of the Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust chaplaincy team, I was given the first shot of the Covid-19 vaccine this weekend. I want to encourage everyone to get the vaccine when they are invited. Staff across the NHS, and health workers across the world, are under immense pressure on the front lines of this pandemic. They deserve not just our admiration but our support - and getting the vaccine when we have the opportunity is something we can all do to help relieve the burden on them.

It has been a privilege to volunteer at St Thomas' over the past year. Chaplains here and across the country are doing a vital job of

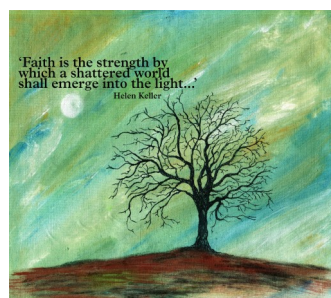


providing spiritual and pastoral care to patients, staff and relatives at this acutely painful and difficult time.

The rapid development of the vaccine is an answer to prayer – and it is central to the recovery from this terrible pandemic. Jesus Christ calls us to love our neighbour as ourselves. Getting the vaccine is part of that commandment: we can show our love for each other by keeping each other safe from this terrible disease. To everyone in this country and across the world, I want to say please, please accept the invitation to get the job when it comes - and encourage everyone around you to do the same.

Diocesan Calendar of Prayer

The Diocesan Calendar of Prayer is published every month and features beautiful artwork by Primrose Northrop. If you'd like to receive the Calendar directly by email you can sign up to the mailing list.



Each day we have the opportunity to pray with and for each other as we seek God's direction and continued blessing on all that we do in his name. Each benefice will be invited to contribute their prayer requests, stories and photos to our 'new look' Calendar of Prayer. Through our more deeply connected prayer we can build up our diocesan community of

prayer.

Our Prayer Network is co-ordinated by Lyndall Bywater and our artist-in-residence Primrose Northrop oversees the Calendar of Prayer. They are always happy to hear from you and always

welcome feedback. You can complete a simple form by clicking here for your story and prayer requests to be included.

Contact details for more information:

<https://www.canterburydiocese.org/calendar-of-prayer/>

**Churches
Together
in
Faversham**

Faversham

Food – Bank

**The ongoing
challenges that
they face—on our
behalf!**

Keeping Contact

The Benefice of Faversham

Churches Together in Faversham

Churches Together in Faversham –
Easter Card

At the January meeting of the leadership and representatives of Churches Together in Faversham agreed that we will produce and deliver an Easter Card.

This will be similar format to the Christmas Card that CTiF sends to every household in the town.

At this difficult time it is even more important to remind our community of the Good News of the risen Jesus.

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Or direct to

- Churches together in Faversham.
- Bank sort code: 090151
- Account number: 78769401.

Thank you for supporting our efforts

Sarah Williams

Chairman, Churches Together in Faversham

Faversham Food Bank

14420 that is how

many meals the Food Bank distributed last year! Just here in our little town!

The FoodBank battles on against a massive increase in demand. The response is pretty simple—ignore it or get involved!

It is important that donations are appropriate to their facilities.

Recently we asked what sort of food Faversham Foodbank could use. Because of their storage facilities they can only take long life room temperature stored food stuff whether this be dried or canned.

They CAN NOT take fresh chilled or frozen foods we do not have the storage facilities for this sort of foodstuff.

So, how and where?

- Straight cash, that means the Food Bank can purchase the things the



people need. Quite efficient really.

- Go to <https://faversham.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/>
- Then download your Standing Order Form , the site gives you the rest of the process.
- Or a one off donation. Again look on the website or send a cheque to them at the Gospel Mission, sure they can cope with processing it.
- Physically take the requested items to Faversham Foodbank, C/ O Faversham Gospel Mission, Tanners Street, ME13 7JL

And now for something completely different.....

A book review

A bit of a departure for Keeping Contact, but hopefully people will find it interesting. Probably have poems in here next.

Some of you might know, that along with other stalwarts from the Benefice, I have been following a Diocesan course on worship leadership. This has caused me to reflect on all aspects of worship and me.

Everyone has their own view on what intercessions should be. This can be founded in tradition or at the other extreme driven by the desire to do something new.

In a collective worship setting we are family and people make allowances for different members. This should be pretty much the case in worship when I might be leading. But I was struggling a bit with how you can make intercessions inclusive and not just the way you want them to be.

My mentor lent me this book as a tool to help.

"The Intercessions Handbook", by John Pritchard, published in 1997 by SPCK. There are reasonably priced copies on Amazon and eBay.

I found it well written, compact and clear. Actually entertaining and did make me laugh a few times.

The first two, brief but concentrated, chapters give a background and theology. That hard reading bit is just 18 pages, my level of concentration. The style suited me but made the points clearly.

It made it quite clear what

intercessions are and are not. That helped me in my thoughts about intercessions and corporate prayer.

The book then moves into the Handbook phase.

Here it is full of good ideas for ways of preparing intercessions.

It avoids giving actual prayers but it gives ideas and hopefully helps lead us away from the formulaic prayers of intercession.

It provides patterns and models for intercessions in all sorts of circumstances. Good people of Ospringe expect something different if ever we get back to worshipping together.

Who might this book be useful to?

- anyone who has a role in corporate prayer
- anyone who feels called by God to improve their prayer life anyway
- leaders of home groups

Personally I wish I had seen it previously.

Rocyn Williams

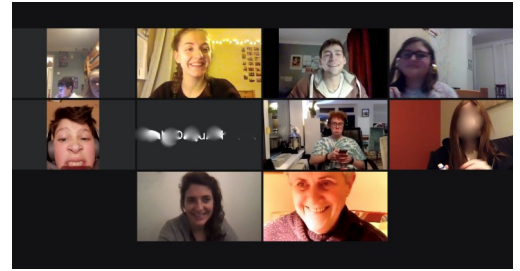
****If you have recently read an interesting book appropriate to our readership then do let us have a review.*

That need not be that hard, give full details of the publication, why you read it, why you enjoyed it and what other readers might find useful.

Hope Faversham Youth

Hope
Faversham Youth

An update.



January 2021—News update.

for school years 7+ Wednesdays 7-8pm

A youth group that shows the hope of Jesus to bring life giving change.

What we do.

We are continuing to meet on Zoom, enjoying one another's company, encouraging each other's faith and putting it into action, and most importantly having fun together. We have a group of between 8-10 young people each week.

Of course, Youth ministry is all about the connections and interactions and on Zoom only one person can speak, so we don't get all the little asides and banter. However, we still have fun together. Adapting games for Zoom or finding them, can be challenging to keep everyone engaged.

This year we are starting with a series on Daniel, a young person and his friends whose story starts in a Lockdown. In this Lockdown our young people have so much uncertainty with examinations being cancelled, their schooling being cancelled and changed, working online, missing their peers' company which is so important to and for them.

As we look forward to the coming year we pray that they, and we, will know the reality of God's love for us, His power at work in the world and in us, and that our relationship with Jesus will give us Hope and courage to face our uncertain future together.

Please be praying for us.

Youth Leaders

Hannah Daugherty - Barton Church
Stefano Gould - Baptist Church
Ross Lusby - Barton Church
Julia Martin - Baptist Church
Sarah Williams - Faversham Benefice CoE
(Lucy Stiles - Community Church is taking a break as she has a new teaching job.)

Reference Group

Rev Geoff Cook - Baptist Church
Rev Dan Corcoran - Faversham Benefice CoE,
Oz Power - Barton Church
Sam Morris - Community Churches



hope.faversham_youth

Email:
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Four Churches - One Town

Contact details for Benefice Clergy

Vicar	Revd. Simon Rowlands	0179 553 2592 happyvicar@gmail.com BeneficeofFaversham+Vicar@gmail.com
Community & Mission Priest	Revd. Dan Corcoran	0796 333 2221 danchadc@gmail.com BeneficeofFaversham+Missioner@gmail.com

Please contact the Administrator at the Benefice Office for information on Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals or other services at any of the Benefice Churches.

- * FavershamChurches@gmail.com
- * 0179 553 0553
- * *During the Covid 19 epidemic the office is not manned, but your emails and calls will be responded to as quickly as possible.*

Contacts for individual churches in the Benefice of Faversham

St. Catherine, Preston next Faversham		fb.me/4favstc
Wardens	Hilary Tulett Rodney Foord	BeneficeofFaversham+wardenscp@gmail.com
St. Mary Magdalene w St. Lawrence, Davington		fb.me/4favstmml
Warden	Maureen Gregory	BeneficeofFaversham+wardensmm@gmail.com
St. Mary of Charity, Faversham		fb.me/4favstmoc
Warden	Miranda Ford	BeneficeofFaversham+wardensmoc@gmail.com
St. Peter & St. Paul, Ospringe		fb.me/4favstpp
Wardens	Phil Larter Jason O'Hagan	BeneficeofFaversham+wardenspsp@gmail.com

Keeping Contact — the news sheet

Keeping Contact is the news sheet of the Benefice of Faversham. It shares details of services, news and activities of the member churches in the Benefice and around the town of Faversham.

It is available free from your Church or downloaded from various sites.

Paper copies are available on request to your Church Warden.

Suitable items for inclusion in the magazine or the diary may be submitted to

BeneficeofFaversham+Contact@Gmail.com