

UNITY UPDATE

June 2017

The Monthly Newsletter from the Whitstable Team Ministry

In the waiting room?

Simon Tollotson writes:

Guidance is an interesting thing as far as our faith is concerned. I once heard that God can answer a question about guidance in three ways - "Yes", "No" and "Wait".

Quite often people seek guidance at important points in their lives. Should they marry the person they are dating? Should they leave their job to go to a new job? Should they upsize or downsize their home? Sometimes that waiting can be over a difficult problem, such as awaiting the results of medical tests, or waiting for exam results for exams which had not gone as well as expected, or waiting for the guidance in how to handle a difficult relationship with a family member or close friend. These and a whole host of other questions come at us over the course of our journey through life. I believe God often does say "Wait" to us when we are unsure. Infact, when we do not hear a clear direction from him, this is almost certainly what he is saying.

This may seem unsatisfactory - not to hear a clear voice of guidance from God - but "in the waiting is the making". In other words, I believe what we often discover with God is that it is not the thing that we are waiting for which is important, rather it is what we discover as we wait. Waiting for guidance can be painful, but if it can make us reach out to God and seek his presence then that in itself can be more significant than the

thing that we were waiting for in the first place. Our experience of waiting on God deepens our relationship with him. Our prayer life strengthens in the uncertainty of life. "In the waiting is the making" - the making of our spirituality. How impoverished we would be if we had instant answers to all our requests!

There was a soldier who fought in the American Civil War who waited for many blessings in his life only to have them crushed time after time. He wrote this prayer

A CONFEDERATE SOLDIER'S PRAYER

(Attributed to a battle weary C.S.A soldier near the end of the war)

I asked God for strength, that I might achieve; I was made weak, that I might learn humbly to obey. I asked for health, that I might do greater things; I was given infirmity, that I might do better things.

I asked for riches, that I might be happy; I was given poverty, that I might be wise. I asked for power, that I might have the praise of men; I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God. I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life; I was given life, that I might enjoy all things. I got nothing that I asked for, but everything I hoped for. Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered. I am among all men most richly blessed.

If you are waiting for God for an answer to a difficult problem, maybe, just maybe, the waiting is part of the answer? I pray that may indeed be the case, and that through the waiting you will be deeply blessed.

Details of Services and events at your Local Church

REGULAR SERVICES

ALL SAINTS



Church Street
Revd Simon
Tillotson
01227 272308

Regular Sunday Services:

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00am Sung Eucharist with Family
Communion on 2nd Sunday
6.30pm Choral Evensong (last Sunday)

Regular Weekday Service:

Thursdays 10.00am - Eucharist with healing
prayer

ST PETERS



Sydenham Street
Revd Simon
Tillotson
01227 272308

Regular Sunday Services:

9:30am Sunday School, Church House
10.45am Sung Eucharist
6.30pm Sung Evensong. (Benediction
with anointing and laying-on of
hands with prayer for healing on
1st Sunday of the month).

Regular Weekday Service:

Tuesday 10am Said Eucharist.
Wednesday Quiet Hour 1pm - 2pm.

ST ALPHEGE, SEASALTER



Faversham Road
Revd Canon Steve
Coneys
01227 276795

Regular Sunday Services:

8.45am Holy Communion
In Seasalter Christian Centre
10.10am Lighthouse (short all-age
service)
In Seasalter Christian Centre
11.00am All Age Worship
In Seasalter Christian Centre
11.15am Holy Communion (BCP) 1st Sun
In Old Church, Church Lane

Regular Weekday Services:

Tue 9.15am Morning Prayer
Wed 9.15am Holy Communion
Fri 9.15am Morning Prayer
All in the Old Church

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST



Swalecliffe Court
Drive
Revd David Vannerley
07510 838123

Regular Sunday Services:

9.00am Holy Communion - CW Order 2
(3rd Sun)
10.30am Parish Eucharist
(Not 3rd Sun)
10.30am Morning Praise in Church Centre
(3rd Sun)
4.00pm Café Church - Church Centre
(1st Sun)
6.30pm Evening Prayer
(1st & 3rd Suns)
6.30pm Village Praise in St John the
Baptist Church Centre
(2nd Sun)
6.30pm Village Praise - Chestfield WI
(4th Sun) (3rd in December)
6:30pm Joint worship with Swalecliffe
Free Church (5th Sun)

Regular Weekday Services:

The Eucharist is celebrated each Wednesday
at 10.00am in the Church Centre (Healing
Ministry 1st)

ST ALPHEGE, WHITSTABLE



High Street
Revd Rachel Webbley
01227 273329

Regular Sunday Services:

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am Family Communion & Junior
Church (Family Service 3rd Sun)
Laying on of hands for healing in
chapel afterwards on 1st Sunday
4.30pm Evensong (1st Sun)

Regular Weekday Service:

Wed 10.00am Holy Communion

YOUTH SERVICE



Contact

Georgina Hedley-Smith
georgina@stalphegeseseasalter.org

Regular Sunday Services:

6.30pm 'Y' Youth Service
Seasalter Christian Centre.

WHAT'S ON IN JUNE

Join us this summer!

Ages 5-11 10am-12.30pm

£3 per child per day (£9 max per family)

For a booking form, contact Jane Myhill at
jane.myhill@btinternet.com or by ringing
01227 276923 (Seasalter Christian Centre)

Thursday 27th & Friday 28th July

St John's Methodist Church, Argyle Road

Tues 15th, Wed 16th & Fri 18th August

Seasalter Christian Centre, Faversham Road

Monday 21st & Tuesday 22nd August

St John's Swalecliffe, St John's Road

Wednesday 30th & Thursday 31st August

All Saints Church Hall, Church Road



Summer Holiday Clubs

SACRED SPACE
A TIME TO BE QUIET AND
AT PEACE IN A WORLD OF
RUSH

JOIN US ANY TIME
BETWEEN 8PM - 9PM
13TH JUNE 2017
ALL SAINTS, WHITSTABLE



The following activities take place every week:

St Alphege Whitstable

The Cafe is open every day except Sunday between 9:00am - 12:00pm, with lunches being served on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 12:00pm - 2:00pm.

St Alphege Seasalter

Thursdays at 10.30 am: Open Door

Fridays at 6:15pm: Prayerpoint

Fridays at 8:00pm (30 minutes). Silent Prayer of the Heart

All Saints

Mondays at 2:00pm: CAMEO (Come and meet each other)

Thursdays at 11:00am: Film Club

Team Prayer:

Mondays at 5.00pm at St John's

Evening Prayer and prayers for the Team. 

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

All are welcome at our meetings,
you do not have to be a member,
and lifts are always available.

Tel. Margaret Lakin-Hall (leader)
01227 262471.

Tues 6th June at 10:00am: Seasalter Christian Centre Topic to be arranged.

Thurs 15th June at 2:30pm: A talk by Rev. Joyce Outen on "Corpus Christie", in the Thorpe Room All Saints Church

Tues 20th June at 10.30am: MU Annual meeting at St. Paul's Church Canterbury (Money for AFIA to be collected).

Thurs 22nd June at 12:00pm: Cathedral Prayer Time

Songs for a Summer Evening

Gershwin, Bernstein,
Poulenc, Délibes, G&S
and more...

Saturday June 17th 7:30pm
St Alphege Church, Whitstable.
Tickets £10, concessions £7.50

Whitstable's own international Stars!



Nicole Tibbles
Swingle Singers,
London Sinfonietta,
ROH



Mary Carewe
RAH, RFH,
Carnegie Hall



Graham Bickley
Les Misérables,
Miss Saigon,
Sunset Boulevard



Susan Bickley
ROH, ENO
Glyndebourne



Helen Crayford
Philharmonia Orchestra
Kentish Piano Trio
Edinburgh Jazz Fest

All proceeds to St Alphege Church. Tickets on sale at
Herbaceous, Gatefield Sounds, Church Cafe or on the door

UNITY UPDATE

Editor: Steve Charman

unityupdate@thecharmans.net

Please email if you would like to be sent a

PDF version of Unity Update