

# The Messenger



**May**  
**Spring 2020**

**Christ Church, Longridge “Living for  
Christ at the heart of the community”**

[www.christchurchlongridge.org.uk](http://www.christchurchlongridge.org.uk)

# From the Minister

Have you ever considered how much time you spend preparing for events? Whether this is getting ready for a holiday, taking part in or attending a sporting event, preparing for family or friends coming to stay, all of which take time, effort and considerable thought. For example, before going on holiday, you would need to decide where to go, book somewhere to stay, decide on your travel plans, maybe book a flight or train, decide on appropriate clothing and pack, arrange for someone to look after any pets, cancel newspapers or any other regular deliveries. Think of all the things you do, from the moment you wake up to leaving the house, whether for work, or shopping, or going somewhere. We are always preparing because we want to be ready, to be on time, to be fit for purpose. I wonder do we take the same approach with our Christian lives, our daily faith journey with God.

We are rapidly approaching the start of Lent with Ash Wednesday (26th February). Lent focusses on the 40 days when Jesus went into the desert to prepare for the start of his ministry. The forty days of Lent cover the time from Ash Wednesday until Easter (excluding Sundays) and has traditionally been a time of giving up something – chocolate, alcohol, social media, television, etc as a reminder of Jesus fasting in the desert. More recently, there have been suggestions of adding



something to your life e.g. spending more time reading your Bible, giving time to someone who may need you, volunteering, carrying out random acts of kindness, fundraising for charity, writing to someone and telling them how much they are appreciated, and other ways of giving something of ourselves to others.

Research informs us that undertaking something for 40 days becomes a habit which we then continue doing automatically without thinking about it. Wouldn't it be wonderful if this Lent you could develop a positive habit which would continue for the rest of the year, what a way to transform our lives and communities!

Karen

## **SINCE last time...**

It all goes by so fast so here's a quick summary of the special things that have happened at Christ Church or that we have been involved in: -

- Advent Carol Service
- Monday Menu Christmas meal
- Connexion Zone Christingle
- Blessing of town crib
- Plessington Carol Service
- Craft Club Christmas Meal
- Lancashire Sings Christmas
- Shoppers' Carol Service

- Christ Church Carol Service
- Christmas Day
- Circuit Carol Service
- Covenant Service
- CTLD Epiphany Carol Service
- Monday Menu Epiphany Party

*(in amongst, the church was decorated and the decorations were cleared away!!)*

Two new Local Preachers were accredited (Judith Laycock and Jason McMahon) and Catherine Kampta has also completed her studies and will be accredited at the beginning of March – we look forward to having them to lead worship in the coming months and years.

URC area gathering at Penwortham

The District Forum on Marriage and Relationships was held at Christ Church

Rev Daleen TenCate – the coordinator of our URC Missional Partnership led worship and spoke at Monday Menu.

THEN it rained and blew a gale and rained and rained and rained.

The Sierra Leone team flew out on February 12<sup>th</sup> and are due back before the end of the month.

Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday and the first of this year's Lent lunches haven't happened as I write but should happen before this magazine is out.

Our thanks go to all who have helped in any way in keeping all our regular activities going and arranging all the 'extras'. Thank you to

Carol and all the musicians for all the extra preparations and to our minister Karen for her enthusiastic support and hard work.

## **WHEW What next?**

We go from one hectic season to another. Advent is meant to be a time of spiritual reflection and preparation but, as the above list shows, many of us had little time for quiet reflection. As March begins, we step into Lent. We pray that we might be able to put more time aside to contemplate God's love for us and our response to Him. Even so there are a number of things to look forward to.

The World Day of Prayer service this year will be held at Christ Church, there will be the usual Lent lunches. Craft Club; Monday Menu; Round the Table and Connexion Zone will carry on as usual. We will celebrate Holy Week and Easter and finish this quarter with our celebration of Pentecost. Details of all these can be found elsewhere in the magazine. Enjoy the spring weather when it comes and praise God for all that we get from and give to the life of Christ Church.

Round the Table (a group for Parents with their children) meets in the Church Hall at approximately 3.30pm on the second and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month for further details please see Howard Roscoe; Anne Norcross; Claire Tuffin or the minister.

We will be supporting Christian Aid as usual by running the Market Café on April 30<sup>th</sup> and holding a Quiz on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Watch the notices for other events.

The amazing knitted Bible with dozens of Bible scenes depicted entirely with knitted figures will be at Penwortham Methodist Church from March 6<sup>th</sup> (more details in the foyer).



*All Welcome to .....*

# *'Monday Menu'*



*3 Courses of  
Coffee, Company &  
Conversation*

*Plus*

*Specials Board  
Food for Thought*



*EVERY FIRST MONDAY*

*7.00pm – 8.30pm*

*Transport Available,  
Please see John or Henry*

# Christ Church Worship and Events

(Sunday Worship times 10.45am & 6.30pm unless otherwise stated)

## LENT 1

### Sunday March 1<sup>st</sup>

AM Rev Karen Le Mouton Holy Communion  
6pm Circuit Local Preacher Commissioning Service at New Longton

### Monday March 2<sup>nd</sup>

7–8.30pm Monday Menu

### Wednesday March 4<sup>th</sup>

10am South Group Missional Partnership Steering Group at Fulwood URC

### Friday March 6<sup>th</sup>

11am Service for the WORLD DAY OF PRAYER at Christ Church  
(preceded by rehearsal at 9.45am)

12-1pm 2nd Lenten Lunch at Christ Church  
Organised by Christ Church and St. Michael's, Grimsargh

## LENT 2

### Sunday March 8<sup>th</sup>

AM Mrs Sue Davies  
4pm Circuit SPACE for Mission at Ingol with feedback from the  
Sierra Leone team

### Friday March 13<sup>th</sup>

12-1pm 3rd Lenten Lunch at St Wilfrid's run by Alston Lane

## LENT 3

### Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup>

AM Rev Nigel Lemon  
3pm Rev Karen Le Mouton Plessington Court

### Wednesday March 18<sup>th</sup>

7.30pm Circuit Preachers & Worship Leaders Meeting at Penwortham

**Friday March 20<sup>th</sup>**

12-1pm 4th Lenten Lunch at Christ Church run by St Lawrence with St Paul's

**Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup>**

URC Synod

LENT 4

**Sunday March 22<sup>nd</sup> – Mothering Sunday**

AM Mr John North

PM Rev Karen Le Mouton

**Wednesday March 25<sup>th</sup>**

7.30pm Circuit Meeting Venue TBC

**Friday March 27<sup>th</sup>**

12-1pm 5th Lenten Lunch at Christ Church run by Christ Church and St Michael's, Grimsargh (please sign list in foyer if you can help)

LENT 5

**Sunday March 29<sup>th</sup> - Passion Sunday {Clocks go forward one hour}**

AM Mrs Judith Laycock

4pm Circuit Wellbeing Service at Bamber Bridge

**Wednesday April 1<sup>st</sup>**

10am Connexion Zone

(see John spencer if you can help - helpers from 9.30 please)

**Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup>**

12-1pm 6th Lenten Lunch at Christ Church run by St Lawrence with St Paul's

**Saturday April 4<sup>th</sup>**

2pm URC South Group Missional Partnership Commissioning Service at Penwortham URC

LENT 6

**Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday**

AM Rev Karen Le Mouton

PM Rev Jane Wild

**Monday April 6<sup>th</sup>**

7-8.30pm Monday Menu



## **MAUNDY THURSDAY April 8<sup>th</sup>**

7.30pm      Rev Karen Le Mouton      Holy Communion

## **GOOD FRIDAY April 9<sup>th</sup>**

10.45am      Mr Henry Rose

12.00pm      CTLD at the Towneley Gardens

## **EASTER SUNDAY April 12<sup>th</sup>**

6am      Circuit Sunrise Service on Beacon Fell

10.45am      Rev Ron Lewis      Holy Communion

4pm      Circuit Easter Cantata      Penwortham

## **Monday April 13<sup>th</sup>**

NO CRAFT

### **1st Sunday of Easter**

## **Sunday April 19<sup>th</sup>**

AM      Dr Carol Spencer

3pm      Rev Karen Le Mouton      Holy Communion  
at Plessington Court

## **Monday April 20<sup>th</sup>**

Craft restarts

### **2nd Sunday of Easter**

## **Sunday April 26<sup>th</sup>**

AM      Mrs Elizabeth Fletcher

PM      Rev Karen Le Mouton

## **Thursday April 30<sup>th</sup>**

9am–1pm      Longridge Market Coffee Day For Christian Aid

## **Saturday May 2<sup>nd</sup>**

9.30am      Lancs District Synod at Blackburn

### **3rd Sunday of Easter**

#### **Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup>**

AM Rev Karen Le Mouton Holy Communion  
Followed by Annual Church Meeting  
PM Circuit Easter Offering Service at Kingsfold

#### **Monday May 4<sup>th</sup>**

7–8.30pm Monday Menu

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS YEAR SPRING BANK HOLIDAY is on  
FRIDAY MAY 8<sup>th</sup> (NOT a Monday)**

### **4th Sunday of Easter: CHRISTIAN AID WEEK**

#### **Sunday May 10<sup>th</sup>**

AM Mrs Kate Bosman  
4pm Circuit SPACE at Fulwood Holy Communion

#### **Friday May 15<sup>th</sup>**

7pm Quiz Night at Christ Church for Christian Aid

### **5th Sunday of Easter**

#### **Sunday May 17<sup>th</sup>**

AM Mr Andrew Bennett  
3pm Dr Carol Spencer Plessington Court

#### **Thursday May 21<sup>st</sup>**

Circuit Service for Ascension Day - TBC

### **Sunday After Ascension**

#### **Sunday May 24<sup>th</sup>**

AM Rev John Maiden  
PM Rev Karen Le Mouton

#### **Monday May 25<sup>th</sup>**

NO CRAFT

### **Pentecost**

#### **Sunday May 31<sup>st</sup>**

AM Mr David Evans  
6.30pm CTLD Pentecost Service at St Wilfrid's

## Friday Coffee Rota - Spring 2020

March 6	Sue Lawson	April 24	Linda Grange
March 13	Linda Grange	May 1	Sandra Ashcroft
March 20	Sandra Ashcroft	May 8	Liz Marven
March 27	Liz Marven	May 15	Margery Cook
April 3	Margery Cook	May 22	Linda Grange
April 10	No Coffee	May 29	Sue Lawson
April 17	Sue Lawson		

## Church Flowers - Spring 2020

The flower rota for 2020 is now on the notice board in the foyer. Please add your name on the date/s you want or let Claire Tuffin know your preferred dates as soon as possible.

Other Sundays vacant later in the year are:- July 26<sup>th</sup>; August 9<sup>th</sup>; October 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>; November 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>.

March 1 <sup>st</sup>	Carol Rose	May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Margery Cook
March 8 <sup>th</sup>	Hazel Scott	May 10 <sup>th</sup>	<b>**Vacant**</b>
March 15 <sup>th</sup>	Linda Grange	May 17 <sup>th</sup>	Hazel Scott
March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Sue Lawson	May 24 <sup>th</sup>	Sue Lawson
March 29 <sup>th</sup>	Judith Dixon	May 31 <sup>st</sup>	<b>**Vacant**</b>
April 5 <sup>th</sup>	Mel Watson	June 7 <sup>th</sup>	Claire Tuffin
April 12 <sup>th</sup>	Jean Norman	June 14 <sup>th</sup>	Carol Rose
April 19 <sup>th</sup>	Val Fletcher	June 21 <sup>st</sup>	Mel Watson
April 26 <sup>th</sup>	Margaret Mohyla	June 28 <sup>th</sup>	Val Fletcher

# Hidden Books

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Bible is a remarkable book. Within this letter there are 26 books of the Bible hidden. Can you find them all? Have a go at it using a pen or pencil highlight the ones you find.

The Bible was written by God, using many authors from all sorts of backgrounds, having many different jobs. God tells us the story of his nation Israel and His son, Jesus Christ, making sure it has been preserved for us through the ages for us to read today.

The Bible outlines the right way to lead our lives, as well as containing many historical accounts. Moses led Israel through the Red Sea, at the battle of Jericho trumpeters marched round the walls for seven days, Judea saw great wars and captivity, Abishag gained David as a husband, the Pharisees would act superior to everyone else, perhaps almsgiving for example, but Jesus kept giving them a most stern rebuke. Jesus also performed many miracles, after receiving the Holy Spirit upon his baptismal achievement, with his first miracle being turning the water into wine for the groom at the wedding, maybe it was a nice Spanish Rioja? Mesopotamia was an important region in Biblical history, with Ur and Babylon in that area, as was Sudan I elsewhere read.

When studying the Bible it is helpful to look out for any Bible echo. Search for them whenever you read as you will see some fascinating things, particularly when reading the letters to the various churches, or ecclesias. Testing what you hear against the Bible is also very important to show if it is true, for example if someone suggests Jesus was born in Suez rather than Bethlehem, you would use the Bible to check its accuracy. The same applies if you think Paul ate locusts, David played a banjo eloquently for Saul, Barnabas went on missionary work to Dijon, a horse carried Jesus into Jerusalem or Lazarus died of swine flu, keep going back to the Bible as you can learn a lot from answers to your questions. There is no need to put being academic ahead of everything else though as Jesus said it is most important to love one another, in a humble spirit. Jesus gave his life for us and when we are in a spiritual rut, his love will give us the comfort we need.

Sincerely, the Rev E Lation

# Activities

## SUNDAY

**10.45am** Morning Worship &  
Junior Church

**3.00pm** Afternoon Worship\*

\*Normally 3rd Sunday at Plessington Court

**6.30pm** Evening Worship\*

\*As announced – please see notices

## MONDAY

**10.00am** Craft Club\*

\*Term Time

**7.00pm** Monday Menu\*

\*1st Monday of month

## WEDNESDAY

**9.30am** Christ Church Ramblers\*

\*As announced – please see notices

## FRIDAY

**7.45am** CTL Morning Prayers\*

\*At St Wilfrid's in 2020

**10.00am** Coffee Morning

**MINISTER:** Rev Karen Le Mouton 01772 323818

(Church Secretary) Mrs Mel Watson 01772 783581 or

(Senior Steward) Mrs Carol Rose 01772 783680 or

(Pastoral Secretary) Dr Carol Spencer 01772 782829

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