

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTED BY THE CHURCH IN



ALDHAM



OCTOBER 2020 (by email)

www.aldham-church.co.uk

FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Friends,

October is the month when we normally hold our Harvest Festival in church. This year, of course, everything has to be reconsidered; but we still want to give thanks to God for all the wonderful produce that his creation provides us with. Some supermarket shelves may have been cleared out, but we've still managed to put on a few pounds of weight! And we've enjoyed some lovely summer weather, and perhaps heard more birdsong and smelled fresher air in lockdown. Some of the best things in life are still free!

We're also much aware of those who have had a hard time of it this year: perhaps you've even been affected yourself? Many businesses have been hard-hit, while key-workers have coped with increased workloads. Harvest is our chance to give back generously, and this year we are supporting Colchester's Open Door project, which supports people in need with food in the crisis.

With best wishes,

CHANGE OF PHONE NUMBER

Please note that Churchwarden **Ken Thompson's** telephone number is now **01206 803418**

ALDHAM W.I.

I'm very sorry that we can't have W.I. for the foreseeable future.

Jean Jennings

WHAT'S WORSHIP IN CHURCH LIKE?

Worship resumed in the church building on Sunday, 2 August. We have a Service of the Word at 9.15 am. We sit well apart on every other pew. On arrival, we sign in, sanitise our hands, make our cash offering and go straight to an available pew. There is space for about 30 people or family units in the nave. We wear masks and don't sing. Music is played at the start, during, and at the end of the service. At the end we leave promptly and chat, outside. Thankfully, Sundays have been fine so far! We are having Communion at 9.15 am on the fourth Sunday, starting on 27 September, using individual glasses on loan from the Methodist Church.

We exist to honour God and to enable people in our community discover Jesus

CHURCH ROTAS

Cleaning:

October Coral and Mark Wingate

Flowers:

Oct 4, 11, 18 HARVEST Wendy Byford and team

Oct 25, Nov 1 Mags Newton
Churchyard: Ken Thompson

DIARY DATES

Oct 4 Harvest Sunday
Oct 12 7.30 pm APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting). Properly distanced in the church
Nov 6 Real Advent Calendars. £4. Order by 6 November.
Nov 15 **Gift Day**

TUESDAYS

The recently introduced 'Rule of Six' appears to have ruled out Open Church on Tuesdays. However, resuming on Tuesday 13 October at 9.15 am will be the Monthly Prayer Meeting in the church - socially distanced.

COMMUNION

The PCC has agreed to have communion services again on fourth Sundays, starting on 27 September. We use individual cups for wine (thanks to the Methodist Church) and wafers. A small table is brought to the top of the nave. We go to this table with a mask on; the president sanitises his hand and drops a wafer into your hands; you take an individual cup of wine from the table; you go back to your pew and drink the wine with everyone else at the same time. The used cups are taken to a dishwasher.

SHOE BOXES

Operation Christmas Child.

Shoebboxes filled with gifts for children in poverty are welcomed as in previous years. Leaflets or empty boxes can be collected from church, or from me. Separate items can also be donated in the box at the back of the church from which I will make up boxes. If you prefer not to go to the shops I will use any money donated to buy things for boxes. Or you can fill an online shoebox for £20 (including project costs)at

<https://shoebboxonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk/>.

The deadline to bring boxes to church is Sunday, 8 November. Many thanks.

Lindsay Gough

HARVEST SUNDAY - 4 October

At harvest time for many years Aldham Church has collected food for Eld Lane Baptist Church's **Open Door** - the Drop-in Centre for Colchester's most needy folk. We intend to continue the tradition at our Harvest service on Sunday, 4 October.

Simon Heard, who runs Open Door, tells us that it is operating 3 mornings a week, out on the forecourt, and that when the weather is too cold for this, they have ordered two large gazebos, with some heating, so that they can continue throughout the winter. As well as items for the morning sessions Simon tells us that goods for food parcels would be greatly appreciated. The recipients of their food parcels often have no electricity so he recommends that 'readily eatable and preservable' should guide us when choosing items to donate. There will be a table at the back of the church on 27 September and 4

WHO'S WHO

Priest-in-Charge	Revd Ian Scott-Thompson, The Rectory, Church Lane, Marks Tey, Col. CO6 1LW	01206 215772
Churchwardens	Mrs Coral Wingate, 79 Coggeshall Road, Marks Tey, CO6 1LS Mr Ken Thompson, 20 Hines Close, Aldham, Colchester, CO6 3RL	01206 210369 01206 803418
Secretary	Mrs Anne Matthews, 18 Scott Drive, Lexden, CO3 4JD	01206 575603
Treasurer	Mr Richard Gough, 12 Oaktree Cottages, Brook Road, Aldham, CO6 3RJ	01206 215688
Newsletter Editor	Mr Iain MacCallum, 9 Handford Place, Queens Road, Colchester, CO3 3NY	01206 571070

October so that the goods can be isolated before delivery to the Baptist Church.

The Soup Run is not operating at the moment, so the only acceptable soup is the 'cup-a-soup' type which can be brewed easily for the morning sessions. Porridge and Weetabix are also popular.

Here is a list of items suggested by Simon.

coffee	tea bags
hot chocolate	sugar
lemonade	cans of coke
UHT fruit juice	UHT milk
crisps	instant porridge
weetabix	cup a soup
sandwich fillings - tuna, corned beef, meat/salmon paste etc	
processed cheese	pickle
crackers	oatcakes
packets of biscuits	kitkats etc
cake	tins of fruit

This is going to be a tough winter for those struggling with homelessness and poverty.

Please give generously.

FROM THE TIMES - 22 September

Online booking systems, apps and close links with visitors have put places of worship in a good position to support the NHS test and trace system, religious leaders have said. Bodies including the Church of England, the Muslim Council of Britain and United Synagogue have issued advice on collecting details, with various apps.

Hannah Rich, a researcher at Theos, a religious think tank, said: "I'd say church is the safest place I've been since reopening."

GIFT DAY - 15 November

Along with many other churches, our income looks like being insufficient to pay our ongoing expenses. At the PCC at the beginning of December, it was reported that our regular payments towards the cost of the ministry in Aldham (the Parish Share) were £6,000 below what they should have been in order to pay it in full.

Faced with (i) not paying the Parish Share in full (ii) finding the £6,000 from reserves (i.e. Tom Holme's legacy) or (iii) using up our meagre working surplus in the General Fund, the PCC went for option (iii). As a result, over 2019, the General Fund working surplus dropped almost £4,000 from £4,918 to £955.

This year, with a working surplus expected to be down to about £1,000, there will be real problems if there is any significant Fabric expenditure required before the Friends can get going again. We could be £4,000 short on the Parish Share. Option (ii) is not a sustainable way forward. Option (iii) is impossible, So it's between option (i) and an appeal to the church membership and others to donate and enable us to pay for the ministry as we have always done in the past. Thus we propose what many other churches do at the end of their financial year and have a **Gift Day - on 15 November**.

There will be more here next month.

CAROLS IN THE CHURCHYARD

Sunday, 20 December.

Packing the church for a Carol Service will not be possible this year. The PCC decided we should try to work out how to invite everyone to sing carols in the churchyard.

ADVENT CALENDAR

The Advent Calendars with a new story-activity book are still £4 each. We will order a box of 18 calendars. There will be no sign-up list. Tell us in church or phone 01206 571070 to tell us how many you want by 6 November.

Iain & Jennifer MacCallum

THE BRIDGE

Re-opening still expected on 23 November.

Deadline for November Newsletter

22 October

To: Iain MacCallum or
Jane Smith, 7 Church Grove

WORSHIP AT ALDHAM

You are warmly invited to our services.

We sit socially distanced, but there is still room for a few more!



4 Oct	9.15 am	HARVEST THANKSGIVING
11 Oct	9.15 am	MORNING WORSHIP
18 Oct	9.15 am	MORNING WORSHIP
25 Oct	9.15 am	COMMUNION



Refreshments cannot be served during current restrictions

Worship at Marks Tey

<i>1st Sunday</i>	11.00 am	Morning Worship
<i>2nd Sunday</i>	11.00 am	Morning Worship
<i>3rd Sunday</i>	11.00 am	Morning Worship
<i>4th Sunday</i>	11.00 am	Morning Worship
<i>5th Sunday</i>	11.00 am	Morning Worship

Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.

Psalm 20:7

Please support your local Traders

BOILER SERVICING	J Butcher 24 Gainsborough Rd. Sudbury CO10 2HT	07885 504036
BUTCHER	Willsher, 87 London Road, Marks Tey	01206 210365
CARPETS & FLOORING	Unit 1, Flyover Nurseries, 8 Coggeshall Road, MT	07973 407986
CARPETS & FLOORING	Tey Carpets at Home, 25 Keable Road, Marks Tey	01206 212826
COMPUTER ASSISTANCE	Roger Walker, 16 Hines Close, Aldham	01206 211143
DELOTO DOG GROOMING	Karen, Coggeshall Road, Marks Tey CO6 1LS	07970 990564
ELECTRICAL	Aaron Pearson, 1 Rowan Close, Stanway	07825 224420
FRENCH TUITION	Isabelle Hull, 42 Stanefield, CO6 1LX (up to GCSE)	07957 918546
FUNERALS	A.Birkin & Sons, 6 West St., Coggeshall	01376 561316
FUNERALS	Hunnaball, York House, 41 Mersea Rd.	01206 760049
FUNERALS	E. England Co-op, Stanway Retail Pk, Peartree Rd	01206 804911
FUNERALS	R. Gwinnell & Sons, 112 Ipswich Rd.	01206 868585
GARDEN & HOME MAINTENANCE	SJT, 59 Keable Rd. Marks Tey	07985 386758
GARDENING & ODD JOBS	Gary Todd, 3 London Road, Marks Tey	01206 212274
HOME CARE	Linmar Care, Godmans Lane, Marks Tey	01206 912311
MOBILE HAIRDRESSER	Sarah, 4 Norbury Close, Marks Tey	07884 005978
NAIL TECHNICIAN	Deeva Nails & Beauty, Coggeshall Road, Marks Tey	07516 699101
OPTICIAN	The Eye Centre 15 Market Hill Coggeshall CO6 1TS	01376 561156
OVEN CLEANING	D. Burton, Ashwells, Park Lane, Earls Colne	07850 550799
PHARMACY	86 London Road, Marks Tey	01206 212878
PLASTERER	RJB Plastering, 5 Rowan Close, Stanway, CO3 0QJ	07500 062430
PLASTERER	M.J.Reeve, 5 Ashbury Drive, MT, CO6 1XW	01206 920462
PLUMBER	Mark Nayler, 1c King George Rd, CO2 7PE	07763 468391
REMOVALS & STORAGE	K.Dobbs, Unit 1-2, Bellhouse Farm, Stanway	01206 212444
ROOFING SERVICES	Daniel Wicks, 4 Honeywood Close, Marks Tey	01206 212032