

Growing decade for cathedral congregations

The number of worshippers at Church of England cathedrals increased in 2012, continuing the growing trend seen since the Millennium. Total weekly attendance at the 42 cathedrals grew to 35,800, according to Cathedral Statistics 2012, an increase of 35% since 2002.

Along with occasional and special services, the regular worshipping life of cathedrals has proved more popular than ever over the past decade with cathedrals pointing to stronger community links attracting more people.



Chester Cathedral

Easter 2012 saw the highest attendance in the last decade, at 54,700. Attendance at midweek services has grown most, from 8,900 in 2002 to 16,800, while Sunday attendance has grown from 17,500 to 19,100.

The numbers of children and young people attending educational events is the highest for 10 years (306,800 in 2012 compared to 265,100 in 2002).

The number of volunteers serving cathedrals continued to rise, reaching 15,570, 30% up on the 11,930 in 2002. Between them,

they fulfil a range of 860 voluntary roles across the country.

Other regular services, run at least once a month, attracted a further 1,639,300 worshippers. Around one million attended more than 5000 public/civil events in the cathedrals, down from a peak in 2010 but still nearly twice as many as in 2002. 2,900 specially arranged services, such as annual festivals and school leavers' services attracted a further 930,000.

Dr Bev Botting, Head of Research and Statistics for the Archbishops' Council said: "Cathedrals continue

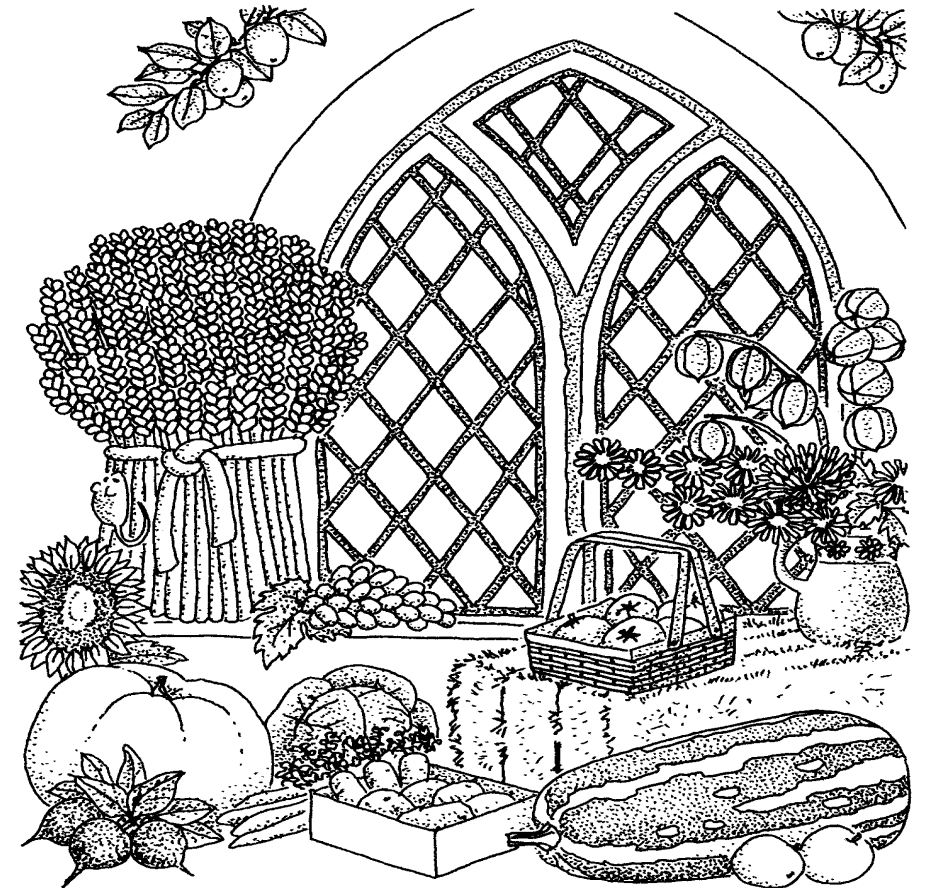
to flourish as worshipping communities while offering a valuable insight into our nation's heritage. The statistics show people of all ages are increasingly drawn to cathedrals for worship, to attend educational and civic events, and to volunteer to ensure our cathedrals are open to all those who are drawn to visit and worship in these wonderful buildings."

"Did you know that admission to Chester Cathedral is now Free!"

Christian Life

The parish magazine of St Mary's & St Luke's

Serving the communities of Rope, Willaston & Wistaston.



Harvest - a time to celebrate God's goodness!!

October - November 2013 Price: £1

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 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Chester

Church Office: office@stmaryswistaston.org.uk - Tel: 567119
Secretary: Sue Squirrell (each weekday from 9.30 until 12.30) For initial enquiries about baptisms, church records and general enquiries. Also for bookings of the Church Hall, St. Luke's and the Church Vestry.

Clergy			
Rector	Revd Mike Turnbull	Th	42
Associate Priest	Revd Ken Sambrook	6	55
Assistant Clergy	Rev Preb Frank Powell	39	79
	Revd Malcolm Shaw	85	17
Church Officers			
Reader	David Illing	41	27
Pastoral Worker	Ann Stubbs	19	33
Parish Evangelist	Lin Parker	51	47
Church Wardens	Mike Carter	42	33
	Simon Bartholomew	18	35
Marriage Enrichment	Sheena Sambrook	6	55
Contact for Deaf People	Alison Howells	24	27
PCC Secretary	Joy Chaplow	30	38
PCC Treasurer	Howard Barker	20	44
Planned Giving	Andrea Bartholomew	18	35
Electoral Roll Officers	Sue & Bob Squirrell	31	33
Magazine Editor	Revd Mike Turnbull	Th	42
Magazine Distribution	Jennifer Jones	40	31
Webmaster	Bob Squirrell	31	33
Bible Reading Notes	Jenny Forbes	7	23
	Linda Cooke	6	45
Church Hall Bookings	Sue Squirrell	C/	19
Tower Captain	Frank Morton	14	16
Young Peoples' Activities			
Junior Church	Sarah Turnbull	Th	42
Rainbows	Teresa Hoper	27	43
Brownies	Julie Croft	19	53
Guides	Helen Pegg	9	36
Midweek Activities			
Mothers' Union	Sue Squirrell	31	33
Stepping Stones	Via Church Office	C/	19
Ladies Evening Group	Marian Carter	4	29



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Sundays at our Churches

1st Sunday of the month

9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer at St. Luke's
 10.40 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Mary's
 With Signing for the Deaf
 6.00 p.m. BCP Evening Prayer at St Mary's

2nd Sunday of the month

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Luke's
 10.40 a.m. All Age Worship at St. Mary's

3rd Sunday of the month

9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer at St. Luke's
 10.40 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Mary's
 6.30 p.m. Life Issues at St Luke's

4th Sunday of the month

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Luke's
 10.40 a.m. All Age Worship with Baptisms at St. Mary's

5th Sunday of the month

10.40 a.m. All Age Communion at St. Mary's
 12.30 p.m. Baptisms at St. Mary's

Notes: The 9.00 a.m. service at St. Luke's is a quieter service. Holy Communion will alternate fortnightly with St. Mary's.
 The 10.40 a.m. service at St. Mary's is a service for all ages. On the 4th Sunday it may include baptism. Holy Communion will alternate fortnightly with SL Luke's.
 The Fifth Sunday Service is a united service for the whole parish enabling everyone from both our churches to worship and meet together.

Morning Prayer (10 mins) - 9.00 a.m. Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri at St. Mary's

The following events take place most weeks if in doubt the leader's telephone number will be found inside the front cover of this magazine.

Sundays (1st & 3rd) 10.40 a.m. Junior Church* (from Creche through to the end of High School)
 Mondays 7.45 p.m. Bell Ringing (Tower)
 Tuesdays 6-7 p.m. Rainbows (Church Hall/Howe Rm)
 5.45-7 p.m. Brownies (Church Hall/Howe Rm)
 7-9 p.m. Guides (Church Hall)
 Wednesdays 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion

*During term time only. Young people start in church and move down to the Church Hall during the 1st hymn.

Dates for your Diary



Please note that our diary is in two parts.
The regular services are detailed opposite. Other items
and variations are shown below.

06 October	Harvest Services & Lunch (see p.7)
03 November	6:30 pm Commemoration Service at St Mary's (see below for further details)
30 November	St Luke's Christmas Fayre (10am - 12 noon)
01 December	Advent Sunday

Commemoration Service at St Mary's, Wistaston Sunday 3 November 2013 at 6:30pm

An opportunity to remember, and give thanks to God, for the life of those whom we love but see no longer. There will be an opportunity for your loved one's name to be read out and for you to light a candle in memory of them.



For all the latest information on what's happening at our churches check out our Online Diary at
www.stmaryswistaston.org.uk/online-diary.html

For all the latest information...



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Do you have something for this magazine?

Your contributions to Christian Life are always welcome. Please pass your items for the next edition direct to the editor on
revd.mike@stmaryswistaston.org.uk or via the Church Office by:- 15 November 2013



St Mary's Wistaston

Frank writes... October 2013



St Luke's Willaston

Harvest time, after our lovely long sunny Summer for which we give God many thanks, as also for the good crop returns our farmers can look forward to after the losses incurred through the Spring bad weather.

But, 'man does not live by bread alone', as Jesus reminded us, so I would like to urge you to pray for the success of that greater harvest - the spiritual one. It is so very much needed in today's troubled world.

Do you ever watch 'East Enders'? If not, may I invite you to watch just one episode, and see if you do not agree that it shows us what life is like in a Community where there is almost no faith or morals. Where there is so much deceit and lies that you feel you can trust no one, and the general rule is to do the other person down. It is something of a hell on earth. Pity anyone who has to live such a nightmare existence. Yet a phone Call Company, based in India, looking for a way to give it's call-operators an idea of what everyday life is like in England, sat them down to watch East Enders!

No doubt, the programme exaggerates how things are, but it is a fact that England is a field ripe for a spiritual harvest. The good news is that green shoots are springing up across the land. Look at the great Christian summer camps, like Spring Harvest, Soul Survivors, the Keswick Convention, among others, which grow in numbers each year.

When Joan and I visit our families, we find ourselves worshipping in churches that did not exist a few years ago. The Vineyard

Church, an all age congregation which meets in a Comprehensive School Hall in Wimbledon. Derby Community Church, established in a building on a Business Estate, just by Derby Football Stadium. At the St. Katherine Cree Church in the City of London there is now a 300 strong Asian Christian congregation. St John's C of E Church, Kingston on Thames. This is a HTB 'plant' begun 3 years ago in a church made redundant twenty years previously, now grown into an all age fellowship of 200. HTB is Holy Trinity Church, Brompton, London, the 'birthplace', of the Alpha Course, which has grown many thousands of shoots, worldwide.

When we were students, a year or two ago!- Joan and I used to see Films at the Dominion Cinema, Tottenham Court Road, London. Now 60 years later, it's two thousand seats are filled with the members of the Hillsong Dominion Church, with four Services every Sunday.

Just a small sample of new churches which have come into being, or have been revitalised, up and down the Country, indicative of the growing number of people who are dissatisfied with a secular, faithless lifestyle and are searching for something more fulfilling.

The Harvest is indeed plentiful. Rejoice, and pray daily that this revival will grow and grow, bringing all the blessings of life with Jesus into hearts and homes, families and nations.

Frank

See page 7 for details of our
Harvest Services

New Church House Opens for Business

Bishop Peter and Diocesan Secretary George Colville raise the diocesan flag at the new Church House in Daresbury Park, near Runcorn. Staff took to their desks on 27 August 2013 after packing and removals went fairly smoothly over the bank holiday weekend.

The diocesan flag (combining St George's cross with the diocesan crest) was raised just ahead of the staff moving in.

Staff – including the Diocesan Secretary and people working in HR, property management, surveying, finance, ministry, parish development, social responsibility, education, communication, plus those working with young people and children – moved to the new Church House (pictured below) from the old one at Aldford, south of Chester, where they had been located since 1999.

All parts of the new Church House are fully accessible. The ground floor has a meeting room, a chapel, a staff room and a resources area.

The first floor has offices for both archdeacons and an open plan workspace for the various



diocesan departments. Daresbury was been chosen for its central location within our diocese and its good communication links. A formal opening ceremony is due to be held at the new Church House on Friday 4 October. After a short service, the former Archdeacon of Chester, Christopher Hewetson, will speak, and the building will be declared open by the former Bishop of Chester, Michael Baughen.

*The new Church House address:
5500 Daresbury Park, Daresbury,
Cheshire, WA4 4GE.
Telephone: 01928 718834*



From the Parish Registers

Entries up to 21 September 2013

BAPTISMS: *Welcome to our church family*

28 July	Trudie Amanda MARTIN Charlotte Katherine O'NEILL Eome Louise O'NEILL Eren-Kai VARLIK
11 August	Olivia Grace LOCKETT Emily Victoria LOCKETT Davina Victoria WATTS Willow Alice WATTS
25 August	Oliver Andrew MEGGS Harrison Charles CUMMINGS
8 September	Lydia Katie ANDERTON Ryan David John ANDERTON Elise Mary BADDERLEY



WEDDINGS:

May God bless these couples who were recently married:

10 August	Sarah LEEKE & Michael BETTS
31 August	Amber LEWIS & Jamie THOMASSON
13 September	Sarah JONES & Daniel WOOD
14 September	Nadiah DAVIES & Alan McKEOWN
20 September	Nicola COOPER & Jonathan PARTON
21 September	Jeanette WEBB & David HARRISON



FUNERALS:

(at church, or taken by minister of this parish at the crematorium)

May they rest in peace and joy

30 July	Jemima BROWNE	90
17 August	Glyn HASLAM	
12 August	Olive Mary YOUNG	
22 August	Dennis OLLIER	82
29 August	John Roy CADWALLADER	74
29 August	Irene BOUGHEY	
28 August	Brian FORSTER	83
03 September	William (Bill) Fredrick LAVENDER	81
02 September	Herbert Marcus HAMPTON	71
09 September	Pamela Ruth HAYES	80



Ladies Evening Group



Our visit to Chatsworth was a huge success and the weather was good.

We had a successful coffee evening in August and raised £150 for the Neo Natal unit at Leighton.

September 25th – our talk by Mrs Barbara Smith went well and on October 23rd, Pam Moon is going to tell us about The Donkey Sanctuary called Hee X Haw!

November 27th Graham Dodd will be giving a talk on the History of Crewe Hall which should be very interesting.

We meet on the 4th Wednesday in the Church Hall at 7.30pm. Visitors and new members would be made most welcome.

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Everyone who went on the Joint Summer Outing (with LEG and friends) to Chatsworth had a great time. We were even lucky with the



weather, as it didn't get stormy and wet until it was nearly time to depart! Our Deanery 'Quiet' Afternoon Service

should have taken place by the time you read this. The chosen charity is The Wheels Appeal and news of this will be updated in the next edition. We now have a speaker for our meeting on 16th October : John Hatfield, whose subject is '20th Century Cathedrals of England'. We then look forward to our meeting in November where Di Carter will be doing a flower arranging workshop, so bring your green fingers!! Anyone is welcome to come along to one of our meetings in the Church Hall, usually on the 3rd Weds, starting at 2.15pm – if you want to find out what we are about.

theW
INSPIRING WOMEN

Willaston WI

We ended our busy summer programme when Idris Evans recalled his humorous, intriguing and often surprising memories of life on a very isolated farm in Wales. In October we are visiting the theatre to see "Boeing Boeing" performed by The Nantwich Players ; spending a day in Chester "Putting on The Ritz"; learning Christmas crafts ; enjoying friendship and a tasty supper at our Autumn Social evening. The Book Club, Walking Group and Luncheon Club continue to be increasingly popular.

Meeting dates and details of our fascinating autumn programme from Judy Jones on; 01270 567015.

Welcome to Malcolm & Sandy!

To all our new friends and colleagues in Christ at St Mary's and St Luke's.

Prior to going into ordained ministry and leaving Crewe, Sandy and I had lived in Crewe, during this time we worshipped at St Michael's Crewe Green and it was while there that we first met Ken and Sheena from St Mary's doing the Bishops course, so we may have met some of you before.

I did my training at Trinity College Bristol and then moved to the Derby Diocese, doing my curacy at Bolsover before taking up my first incumbency as Rector at Brimington.

While we enjoyed our time in Derbyshire it was a two hour trip over the hills from our grandchildren, so after 10 years we decided to come back to the Chester diocese and we moved to Chelford with Lower Withington.

This was a total change from our two previous parishes which had been ex mining villages, Chelford and Lower Withington are farming communities, but God's people are the same the world over.

Then having reached the age of 67 we decided that it was time to retire and return to Crewe, we looked around at the different churches and experienced their worship styles and met some of their people, we decided that St Mary's was the church that we would want to be a part of.

I met with Mike and offered to help in any way that I could, he was gracious enough to accept my offer and Sandy and I now look forward to worshipping with you and getting to know you all better.

I may have retired, but I still feel that God still has many things that he is calling me to do, that my ministry is not yet over.

Malcolm



How did the Bible help your family in WWI?

Next year marks 100 years since the outbreak of the First World War. Delving back over Alliance member organisation the Bible Society's history has uncovered many records listing how they supported soldiers on the frontline.

Might you have a copy of the New Testament & Psalms from these times which has been left to your family? Maybe you have an account of the Bible's words bringing comfort or peace to a soldier in the trenches, or to a family member waiting at home? The Bible Society would love to hear your stories about how the scriptures helped your family through the First World War. Read more at: <http://eauk.co/1b6DABJ>

Could you be a HOST?



Could you offer someone a home far from home for just a day or two? HOST, a well-established charity, is hoping to hear from people who enjoy making others feel at

home, and who would love to meet interesting young adults from other parts of the world who are currently studying at universities in the UK, and who want to understand this country better.

One host wrote: 'It is a great to welcome these students and make them feel wanted. They get to see a good side of life in Britain in contrast to what they might learn from the media. It is also fun getting to know someone from another country.'

Invitations can be for a day, a weekend, or 3 days at Christmas.

Sharing Christmas with someone who has little idea what Christmas is can be really special – and for the guest, much better than being on a deserted university campus. Invitations are urgently needed from volunteer hosts, no matter how far they live from a university. To find out more, please see www.hostuk.org or contact local organiser Alan Lodge 01845 527448

northwest_RO@hostuk.org Thank you.

Our Junior Church returned after the summer break and we needed to add an extra group! The new group is called y:church+ and it is for the older teenagers.

We now have the following groups meeting on the dates to the right.

- Creche - for pre schoolers
- Splash! - for Foundation 2 (Reception) through to year 3
- Xstream - Year 4 through to year 6
- y:church - Year 7 through to year 9
- y:church+ - Year 10 through to year 13

Dates:
15 Sep
06 Oct
03 Nov
17 Nov
01 Dec
08 Dec
15 Dec

On the last Friday of each month we also run a group called JCEXtra for the y:church & y:church+ groups combined - this is in the Church Hall - 7pm to 9pm



A Harvest Twitter Quiz:

How many words of 4 or more letters can you make from the word HARVEST? Tweet your answer (just the number of words!!) to

@maryandluke using #harvestquiz - *don't forget to follow @maryandluke for all the latest news from St Mary's & St Luke's*



Harvest Sunday: this year we will celebrate

Harvest in both churches on Sunday 6th

October. All Harvest Gifts given will be shared between St Luke's Hospice and the Crewe &

Nantwich Food Banks. Fresh, dried and tinned all welcome. Following on from the morning

service at St Mary's (around 12 noon) there will be a Harvest Bring 'n' Share in the Church Hall - all welcome!! Donations will be asked for on the day and any money given will be shared between the Diocesan Agricultural Chaplaincy & an International Aid Agency (still to be chosen). If you would like someone to receive a small Harvest Parcel from the church please give the details to Mike (Rector) before Sunday 6th October - please check with the person first and, if possible, deliver it to them.