

Benefice Events E-Letter

Dawlish with Holcombe & Cofton Sunday 23rd January

We are in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and as CTDD we had been wondering how we might mark this. There is now an opportunity to join with our brothers and sisters on Tuesday at 5pm at Dawlish Methodist. Please read on.

I wonder what excites you about prayer. When I was at Theological College, a very long time ago now, the community was made up of people from not just across the country but by people from across the world. The international students who came to study theology brought with them their own Christian cultures which helped us in the UK to have a greater understanding of what it was like to be a Christian elsewhere. At one time there was a growth in the number of students from South Korea. I remember listening to one of the students sharing about their prayer life at home and it left a lasting impression upon me as I saw such a gulf between their expectations of prayer and my own. One Korean described trekking up nearby mountains in groups and spending nights in prayer there before going to work. And this was a normal part of their Christian life. Who could not but be challenged by this?



Now, some 24 years later, here in Dawlish we have been given the opportunity to meet for prayer with a group of Korean Missionaries who live in the UK. Sometime before the pandemic Mark Jones (Hope Church) met a Korean couple at an event he was at and in conversation they offered to visit Dawlish as they felt they had a calling to pray for us here. After some discussion amongst the lead ministers of Churches Together in Dawlish and District Mark set up a meeting with them on Skype with the ministers whilst sitting together in a café in the town. I have to say that this was quite an extraordinary moment. They were at that time visiting Korea. The offer was to come and pray with us. Then we were hit with the pandemic so this had to be put on hold, and so for two years we have been waiting for an opportunity to meet face to face to consider what God might be saying to us about this. It is really important to say that although these people are missionaries, this is not a mission, but these are a group of people who want to come and pray for us, and alongside us, to encourage us in prayer.



We have just heard that this initial meeting is now happening on Tuesday afternoon this week, 25th January. The idea of this meeting is to build relationships, an understanding of the churches in Dawlish and to pray about whether it is right for them to come for a longer period of time.

I am sorry that there isn't time to visit St. Mary's or St. George's, but it would be great to have representatives from those churches involved and to meet with us at St. Greg's. This is the notice which is going out to all our churches this weekend. What a great opportunity, don't miss it if you are free!

Prayer with Korean missionaries.

On the afternoon of Tuesday 25th January, the lead ministers of Churches Together in Dawlish and District will be welcoming a team of 10 Korean missionaries to Dawlish to help the local churches in their prayer life. There will be a united open prayer meeting in Dawlish Methodist Church from 1500, followed, at 1600, by a united service to mark the end of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, in the same venue. Please do come if you can, and encourage as many Christians as possible to come and join in.

Date: Tuesday 25th January 2022 Time: 1230-1730 (approx.)

Visiting team size: 10

Venue: Dawlish Methodist Church, plus church visits around the town

Purpose: To encourage the churches in Dawlish to a life of prayer

Schedule:

1200-12.30 Arrival

12.30-13.00 Buffet lunch with Lead Ministers of Churches Together in Dawlish and District

13.00-14.30 Team will be dispersed into five pairs, with each pair taken by the respective lead minister to visit either: St Gregory's Parish Church, St Agatha's RC Church, Dawlish Methodist Church, The Strand Church, and The Hope Centre. Other members of each church can be encouraged to meet up with their lead minister and their pair, show them around and pray together in each church. (Any spare time can be used showing their pair around Dawlish town to help them get a feel for the community context and spiritual environment).

14:30-15:00 Regroup after the five church visits, over a cup of tea or coffee, to share reflections, stories and perspectives on what we sense the Lord might be saying to the churches.

15:00-16:00 Open united prayer meeting for anyone to attend from all of the churches, praying into what the Lord has been showing and saying through the afternoon.
16:00-17:00 United gathering to mark the end of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.
17:30 Farewell and departure

There are opportunities for you to be part of this please do join in.

Blessings,
Dallas

Services next week

23rd January 10am HC @ St Gregory's
 9.30am Morning Worship
 @ St George's, Holcombe
 11am HC
 @ St Mary's, Cofton

26th January 10am Wednesday Holy Communion
 @ St Gregory's

30th January 10.30am Benefice Service at St Mary's Hall



Tuesday 25th January Prayer meeting

Topic: Dallas Ayling's Zoom Meeting
Time: Jan 25, 2022 09:00 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6591842294?pwd=hakfR92W-WBnpl1CBn5jr6oxpSCzOg>

Meeting ID: 659 184 2294

Passcode: 995468

St Gregory's PCC

Tuesday 25th January St. Greg's PCC on Zoom - details above.

Morning Prayer on Zoom - Thursday 27th Jan 9.00am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/2198890557?pwd=Y3FmUmFqdDVpNW1ETVUrZ2RoS2MxUT09>

Meeting ID: 219 889 0557

Passcode: 5y1GPu

All are welcome to join, it is quite in order just to sit and listen if you need to work out how it works!

Phyllis Bishop's private cremation

Phyllis Bishop's private cremation will be at 8.15 on Monday 24th January.

United Benefice Service for Candlemas

Next Sunday we are holding our United Benefice Service at St. Mary's Hall at 10.30 am. This will be a special service to celebrate Candlemas. It will be led by Margaret and Will, and Ceri will be speaking. If you are able to offer a lift or would like a lift please phone a friend, or contact Will on 866054 (or send him an email to willhalse@yahoo.co.uk).

Tim's Licensing service – Wednesday 2nd February

At the request of Tim, we have now closed the list. Please do continue to pray for Tim and Mary at this special time for them. The licensing will be at Thorverton Parish Church, EX5 5NT. If you have confirmed with Sabrina that you would like to attend but require transportation – please contact her directly at the church office. There are some people attending who are able to offer lifts.

The Christian Resources Exhibition

The Christian Resources Exhibition is coming to Westpoint on the 23rd and 24th February. Tickets are available on line in advance at £4 or if you book a group £3. There will be many different stalls and resources to look at. Here is the link. <https://creonline.co.uk/>

Calling all ladies connected with St George's and St Mary's

We decided against a sit down inside meal this month because of the local prevalence of you know what, but are hoping to meet for coffee this coming Tuesday at 11.00. Venue Amelia's, but with the use of their outside Terrace, so wrap up and hopefully it will not be windy or wet! If you come with a friend, there is nothing to stop you from staying on for lunch if you felt safe doing so!

Kids swap shop news!

Swap Shop at St Greg's continues with sessions held on Tuesdays in school term time, 9-10am.

By popular demand we plan to hold a session on a Saturday, just ad hoc, now and again, particularly to accommodate those parents who can't make Tuesdays due to being at work.

****Our first Saturday session is planned for Saturday 22nd January, 10am-12midday.****

To remind you how it all works.....for each pre-loved item of children's clothing or shoes brought to Swap Shop the 'donor' gets a 'Swap Shop Ticket'. They can exchange these tickets for 'new to them' items from the good quality, clean and constantly replenished stock. No money changes hands. It's a great way to be more sustainable and for families to 'do their bit' to help in protecting our precious planet.

Lastly, Swap Shop now has its own dedicated Facebook page. If you're a Facebook user you can find it at 'Kids Swap Shop at St Gregs'. Please 'Like' the page and 'Share' it with all your local friends.

Ceri

If you would like any support, or someone to talk to, or you are aware of someone else who would appreciate contact please ring one of the following:

Revd. Dallas Ayling 867386

Margaret Noel 863148

Will Halse 866054