

Writing this article for the newsletter gives me another chance to say a heartfelt 'thank you's. On 1st October, in the cathedral, I was licensed by Bishop David as a lay minister and David vested me with the lay readers' blue scarf. I would never have reached this point without you, God's people, at the Church of the Good Shepherd. Thank you for encouraging and praying me through the faith-stretching, nerve-wracking business of selection and training (including the essay crises and computer collywobbles). Thank you.

On the morning of our licensing, eight fledgling LLMs were turned loose in Bishop David's lovely garden to reflect on our call and future ministry. During that time, certain texts and phrases came to mind and I continue to ponder what they mean for life and discipleship.

In Christ all things hold together.
(Colossians 1:17)

All things work together for good for those who love God who called according to his purpose. (Romans 8:28)

That day, I did have a sense of what this meant for me. Supporting me in the Cathedral were members of my family, my godchild, people who had been fellow pilgrims at my previous churches, a couple of school friends, my university tutorial partner and colleagues from my working life. Mostly believers but also some half-believers or self-declared unbelievers. Visible reminders of the relationships, the shared academic, professional and leisure interests, joys and sorrows, gifts and failures with which God has worked to shape the woman I am today.

It's not always like that – there have been plenty of times when I have cried

out to God – “What on earth, what in Heaven's name, do You think you're doing?” “Why are you not doing something about this person or situation?” And that's alright – the Psalms and the Prophets give us plenty of scriptural examples that show it is alright to question, even rage at God. He can take it. But underneath there is a sense of identity and security, coherence and purpose, rooted in God's love and call to each one of us. And not always, but sometimes God allows us to see the links. The connections between our seemingly disparate experiences and activities. The reverberations between the stories and the great story of Scripture and our own story. One of the exciting things about the diocesan discipleship course which we are working through together is that it helps us explore these connections.

Because our God is not a “God of the Gaps” as some sceptics and cynics charge. He is the God of Connections. He calls us to ‘only connect’.

*We believe in God the Father, source of all meaning and purpose,
We believe in God the Son, the Word,
in whom all things hold together,
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Go-Between God,
We believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
The God Who Connects us to Himself and One Another.*

Terry



PARISH DIRECTORY

Vicar	Rev. David Maher	351844
Assistant Curate	Rev. Judith Gretton-Dann	750013
Assistant Curate	Rev. Rachel Blanchflower	523066
Assistant Curate	Rev. John Polkinghorne	360743
Assistant Curate	Rev. Harry Rose	01954 211553
Licensed Lay Minister	Linda Dean	328658
Authorised Lay Minister (Admin & Music)	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Authorised Lay Minister (Pastoral Care)	Lilas Davison	354300
Authorised Lay Minister (Social Awareness)	Liz Collinson	01954 251377
Churchwarden	Fiona Blows	329822
Churchwarden	Philip Morris	352698
PCC Chairman	Rev. David Maher	351844
PCC Vice Chairman	Fiona Blows	329822
PCC Secretary	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
PCC Treasurer	Jinty Keir	572303
PCC Electoral Roll Officer	Lilas Davison	354300
Administrator	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Convenor PCC Buildings and Grounds Team	David Wilson	720097
Convenor PCC Children and Families Team	Hazel Maher	351844
Convenor PCC Discipleship and Teaching Team	David Maher	351844
Convenor PCC Pastoral Team	Linda Dean	328658
Convenor PCC Social Awareness Team	Liz Collinson	01954 251377
Convenor PCC Worship and Music Team	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Altar Linen	Margaret Handley	357970
Assistant Treasurer	Bill Elsey	357622
Chalice Bearers	Bill Elsey	357622
Children's Society	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Church Hall Bookings	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Coffee Makers	Guido Barzini	300497
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Evelyn Walker	364067
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Paula Carter	07952 919701
Intercessors	John Lamont	565559
Jimmy's Night Shelter	Paula Carter	07952919701
Food Bank	Liz Collinson	01954 251377
Lesson Readers	Rhodri James	357607
Good Shepherd News Editor	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
North Cambridge Area Deanery Synod	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
North Cambridge Council of Churches	David Maher	351844
Registrar of Planned Giving Envelopes	Lilas Davison	354300
Rural Development Movement	Henry Disney	359396
Sacristan	Stuart Keir	572303
Safeguarding Officer	Paula Carter	07952 919701
Servers	Bill Elsey	357622
Sidesmen & Sideswomen	Fiona Blows	329822
Sound System	David Wilson	07899 917831
Sunday Lunch Club	Jinty Keir	572303

READINGS FOR NOVEMBER

Sundays and holy days

6 THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE
ADVENT

Romans 12: 2-8
Matthew 5: 17-20

13 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Galatians 5: 1-18
John 10: 1-10

20 SHOEBOX SUNDAY

Matthew 14: 13-21

27 ADVENT SUNDAY

Isaiah 2: 1-5
Romans 13: 11 - end
Matthew 24: 36-44

Weekdays at 9.30am

2 Philippians 2: 12-18
Luke 14: 25-33

9 Titus 3: 1-7
Luke 17: 11-19

16 Revelation 4
Luke 19: 11-28

23 Revelation 15: 1 4
Luke 19: 11-28

30 Isaiah 52: 7-10
Romans 10: 12-18
Matthew 4: 18-22

FIRST CALL

Sunday November 6 at 7pm in the Chapel



REGULAR SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

Sundays 8.30am Holy Communion
10am Parish Communion

Wednesdays 9.30am Holy Communion

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays
Morning Prayer, when said in church, will
be at 9.15.

Second Monday of each month will be set
aside for Staff Prayer.

SPECIAL SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

Saturday November 6 a service of healing
and the laying on of hands with prayer at
10am

Sunday November 20 All Age Service at
10am (Shoebox Sunday)



EVENTS IN NOVEMBER

Sunday November 6 at 12 noon Sunday
Lunch Club meets in the Church Hall

Saturday November 19 Christmas Market



TOOLS WITH A MISSION

Have you got some old tools in your garage or shed that have been there for a while and are probably deteriorating? I'm guessing many of us may have something hidden away. I've got an old pair of secateurs that I've had for years and have just discovered.

A few weeks ago, I took my old electric sewing machine to a collector for Tools With a Mission. I haven't used it for years. It's heavy and the carrying handle has come off the cover so it's hard to lift. The collector amasses goods donated and then passes them on to someone from the headquarters in Ipswich. Tools of all kinds are received, refurbished and then dispatched in containers to organisations in countries where a need has been identified. Some of them are used in the UK.

As I drove away from his home, I felt really pleased to think that my machine will offer someone an opportunity to earn a living and secure a future for themselves and their family. May I encourage you to have a root around and see if there is anything you could donate? It's so good to have a clear out and even better to know that things we no longer need can bring hope to others. For those of you with internet access, there is a list of what tools are needed on the website. It is really comprehensive. Do have a look and see if you can help.
<http://www.twam.uk/>

Janet Witting



Ben's Family History Project

(An alternative version of Genesis 12-35)

Hello, I'm Ben. Benjamin Jacobson and I want to tell you about my family.

We are an odd, complicated, family, you might say dysfunctional. But we're really rather special. And we're special because of our God.

I don't remember my Mum. She died when I was born but everyone tells me she was very beautiful. Not like her sister, my auntie Leah who's really rather plain. Auntie Leah is also my stepmum (I told you our family was complicated). And my Dad loved my Mum very much (much more than Auntie Leah, and aunties Bildah and Zilpah for that matter). He had to work and wait for years before he was able to marry her.

Then I've got lots of older brothers. And a sister too for that matter but we don't talk about her very much. Joe's my favourite though he thinks a lot of himself. And because I'm the youngest I already have an uncle with lots of nephews. Including twin nephews from my brother Judah. Twins run in the family. My Dad was a twin too. But I'll get on to that in a minute.

It was quite difficult getting to hear the story of the family. I hung around the campfire when the servants were gossiping about us. And I eavesdropped on the aunties' 'women's talk'. That was really interesting. Of course I know how babies are made. But it seems to be quite difficult in our family. My Mum had trouble having Joe and me. And my granny Rebekah had to wait a long time for her twins. And there's some funny stories about my great granddad Abraham and great granny Sarah and grandad Isaac. And my mysterious great uncle Ishmael. Not quite sure how he fits into the story. But Dad said it's really important that God promised my great granddad a big family and he's working out his promise. It's all tied up with having a land of our own and the way we behave and most of all how we relate to God.

All the people of the earth are going to be blessed through us. It's a *covenant*.

Most of all I talked to Dad. There are some things he was a bit embarrassed about telling me. Dad didn't behave very well when he was young. He cheated my uncle Esau and felt bad about it for years. They don't see much of each other now though they had some sort of reconciliation and they do get together for family funerals. Dad ran away from home and hung around with my uncle Laban. Seems to me that Uncle Laban and Dad were as bad as each other. They were both cheats and double-crossers. Dad got the best of it in the end.

Then I asked Dad when he hurt his hip, why he walked funny. And why did he like to be called Israel when everybody knew his name was Jacob. And he told me this really weird story. It all happened before I was born. Dad and the family had escaped from bad uncle Laban and were going back to where he had grown up. But he was really scared about meeting up with uncle Esau again. So he went across the river Jabok to be on his own and try and sort himself out. Seems pretty stupid to me. On his own in wild and hostile territory. Then this strange man comes along and they have an all night wrestling match. And at day break, my Dad said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me". And the stranger asked my Dad – Jacob – for his name. And Dad told him. "Then the man said, you shall no longer be called Jacob but Israel for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed". And he blessed him. I was a confused by all this and said "What do you mean Dad? Do you mean you were wrestling with God. And Dad said, "It's all very mysterious but 'I have seen God face to face and my life is preserved.'"

Then Dad started talking about God quite a lot. He said he had always known that God was there and cared about him and how he behaved and had got a purpose for him. Even when he, Jacob, didn't want to know.

He told me another story. About when he was much younger and his brother Esau was mad at him for cheating him out of his blessing and his birthright. That's when Jacob ran away from home. He was on the run and sleeping rough. It was very rough – he had to use a stone as a pillow. And he had this dream. He saw a ladder from earth to heaven and angels going up and down on it. And "the Lord stood beside him and said, 'I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and your offspring...and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go...for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you'. Wow! You would think Jacob would behave a bit better after an experience like that, wouldn't you. But although he built an altar and said his prayers for a bit, he

went on his way and was soon wheeling and dealing with Uncle Laban and not thinking much about God and his promises at all. But as he now says, God wouldn't leave him alone and hadn't, hasn't finished with him yet.

He said Isaac and Rebecca and Abraham and Sarah knew about God too. And that God spoke to them and made them promises too.

Seems to me this God is really something, really big. Dad says the story of our family is only part of God's story. He doesn't know how it's going to end but it's really important. We are in God's story and God is in our story. Do you think God is in your story and your family's story too?

This account was written to help the Discipleship Course explore the story of the Patriarchs. I hope it makes you want reread the stories in Genesis especially Genesis 28 (Jacob's Ladder) and Genesis 32 (Jacob's wrestling match).

Terry



Terry at Ely Cathedral when she was licensed as a Reader
(October 1)

Ely's new Licensed Lay Ministers



October 1 saw the Cathedral at Ely awash with a sea of blue scarves as our Licensed Lay Ministers (“Readers”) came together for their triennial re-licensing service. We heard an excellent sermon by Canon Peter Wood on being disciples of Christ, our prayers were led by LLMs who are themselves leading discipleship groups across our diocese, and together we celebrated the Eucharist with the One whom we Follow.

We were delighted to admit and licence eight new LLMs. Here is the list of our new recruits, and after it some of the words they found to express their calling and response as they gathered in quiet before the service.

Admitted & Licensed:

Terry Barringer – Chesterton The Good Shepherd

Tim Burgess – Papworth Team

Ray Burman – Methwold, Wereham, West Dereham, Whittington, Wretton with Stoke Ferry

Alistair Collen – Cambridge St Benedict

Richard Holding – Doddington with Benwick & Wimblington

Jackie Metcalfe – Milton

Elaine Midgley – St Ives

Francis Young – Hampton

(You will see Terry next to the Bishop with Dave just behind her. Jackie Metcalfe (who has helped regularly at our Food Bank) is looking over Terry’s shoulder)



GOOD MORNING

I am God.

Today I will be handling all of your problems.

Please remember that I do *not* need your help.

If the devil happens to deliver a situation to you that you cannot handle, do not attempt to resolve it.

Kindly put it in the SFJTD (something for Jesus to do) box.

It will be addressed in MY TIME, not yours.

Once the matter is placed into the box,
do not hold on to it or remove it.

Holding on or removal will delay the resolution of your
problem.

If it is a situation that you think you are capable of
handling, please consult me in prayer
to be sure that it is the proper resolution.

Because I do not sleep, nor do I slumber,
there is no need for you
to lose any sleep.

Rest my child.

If you need to contact me,

I AM ONLY A PRAYER AWAY.

(This prayer was contributed by Daughn to our Wednesday Discipleship
course)

NEWS FROM OUR STUDENTS (PART 1)

It's great to be back at The Church of the Good Shepherd. I absolutely loved spending last year with you and am really happy to be back for another! I spent the summer doing a church placement in Liverpool and got engaged to my (now!) fiancé Sam, who has just started serving his curacy in Ashton-in-Makerfield. I really look forward to catching up and getting to know more of you over the next few weeks.

Felicity



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS 2016

For some years now we have had a custom at The Good Shepherd of posting Christmas messages in GS News. The idea is that you send me your message which is put into the newsletter free of charge. That leaves you free to contribute to a charity of your choice the money you would have spent on cards. If you want me to publicise your charity, I am very happy to do so. Of course we all need to be sensitive to the needs of those who are lonely – I remember how much my Mum enjoyed receiving Christmas cards. But if there are people you meet every Sunday (at least!) perhaps you might consider the good your card money could do?

We always have a “default charity” and this year it is *Angel Tree*, a charity supporting the children whose parents are in prison.



Christmas Market Saturday 19th November 2016

All too soon, our biggest and brightest fundraising event will be upon us. As usual we are totally dependent on the efforts that you all put in to supply both the effort and the produce to make this a success. We need cakes and savouries, tins and bottles (for the Tombola), jewellery, toiletries, Christmas crafts, good quality items for the bric-a-brac stall, nearly new children's clothes and raffle prizes. Please give as generously as you can. There will be a list of stalls posted at the back of the Church and we can't get too much help to staff them on the day. Just sign up or ask us for more information about how and when to make donations..

Ruby, Evelyn & Paula"

Jeanne and Bill's Diamond Wedding



We were so happy to be able to share in Jeanne and Bill's Golden Wedding celebrations and to sample their delicious cake! It was lovely to have them with us again.

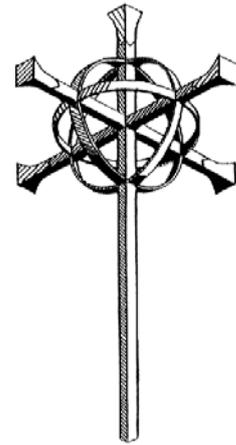
PAUSE FOR A SMILE

If you can start the day without caffeine,
If you are always cheerful,
If you can eat the same food every day and be grateful for it,
If you are understanding when your loved ones are too busy for you,
If you never treat a rich friend better than a poor friend,
If you face the world without lies and deceit,
then you are probably the family dog!

IN THE CHURCH HALL (to book call 352151 (evenings))

THE SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB 1 st Sunday of the month noon – 1.30pm	Jinty Keir	572303
RED HEN Monday 8.15 – 11am	Christine O'Reilly	0781 6444439
SANG Monday 10– 11.30 (meets in Haven in Church)	Rachel Blanchflower	523066
THE MONDAY CLUB Monday 2.00 – 3.30pm	Ruby Leyshon	352151
THE GOOD SHEPHERD CUBS Monday 6.30 - 8pm	Charles Brown	07720 441123
DOG TRAINING CLASSES Monday 8.15 - 9.15pm	Susannah O'Hanlon	235281
LINE DANCING Tuesday 10.15 - 11.45am	Deborah Walker	01954 231382
KEEP FIT 50+ GROUP Tuesday 2.30 - 4pm	Margaret Briggs	01954 250870
THE GOOD SHEPHERD RAINBOWS Tuesday 6.15 – 7.15pm	Miss Rachel Marsh	574520
DOG TRAINING CLASSES Tuesday 7.30 - 9.30pm	Susannah O'Hanlon	235281
THE 18th & 25th GOOD SHEPHERD BROWNIES Wednesday 6 - 7.15pm	Mrs Pat Marsh	574520
DOG TRAINING CLASSES Tuesday 7.30 - 9.30pm	Susannah O'Hanlon	235281
YOGA STRETCHING AND MOBILITY Wednesday 9.25-10.15am	Lexi	367639
PILATES Wednesday 12.20-1.10	Lexi	367639
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION 3 rd Wednesday of the month 2.30 - 4.30pm January to November	Mr. Gawthrop	351855
UNITE RETIRED MEMBERS' ASSOCIATION 4 th Wednesday of the month 2 – 4pm	Evelyn Hunnyball	364293
THE GOOD SHEPHERD BEAVERS Thursday 6.15 - 7.30pm	Emma Roberts	426043
THE GOOD SHEPHERD SCOUTS Thursday 7.30 – 9.00pm	Chris White	0700 891511
CHURCH TODDLERS' CLUB Friday 9.15 – 11.30am	Claire Duell	0787 4850867
TAI CHI Friday 2 – 3pm	Mike Tabrett	503390
SIN CRU Friday 5-7.30pm (Term time only)	Lucy Crowe	07989 927706
DOG TRAINING CLASSES Friday 3.13-4.15pm	Arbury Road Vet. Surgery	361911

**Submission date for
December Newsletter:
November 13
(Publication date November 27)**



Vicarage 01223 351844

Church Hall bookings
(evenings) 01223 352151

Newsletter Ruth Banger 07764 613862
OR ruthbanger51@gmail.com

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Here at the Good Shepherd we like to help you to celebrate and commemorate many of the milestones on the journey through life; these include weddings, anniversaries, funerals, and baptism services.

If you wish to find out more about these, the first step is to contact the Vicar, the Reverend David Maher. He will be able to tell you what is involved and arrange for a meeting with you if you then wish to take things further.

He can be contacted on 01223 351844

Church website: www.churchofthegoodshepherd.co.uk

