

PCC News and Prayer Diary: July 2008

The Vacancy

Give thanks for:

- The appointment of Steve Burmester as the new Vicar of Handforth
- The support given us by visiting clergy and the way they have opened God's Word for us
- School places now confirmed for Hannah and Charlotte

Pray for:

- Steve and Jo with their girls, as they move into the vicarage and have some holiday time.
- The Standing Committee and Leadership Team in all the work needed in preparation for Steve's Induction on September 9th.
- Steve, as he begins to work with the Wardens, Readers and PCC on forward planning
- Steve's first PCC meeting on September 16th.

Resources Committee

Give thanks for:

- all the resources the Lord has provided for us (including rent now being received from 61 Pickmere Rd.) and for the maintaining of giving during the vacancy period.
- the imminent arrival of Derek Marshall to work on the Colshaw estate and the way in which the two churches in Handforth have worked together to achieve this objective.
- all the skills the Lord has given us that we can use in his name.

Pray for:

- a meeting with the new Auditor on the 30th July and how to best move forward with PCC Accounts.
- a continuing ability to honour all our commitments (some members of the congregation have had to reduce their giving due to changed circumstances).
- on-going work – new Notice Board (due soon); new meeting and prayer room; our ability to meet our budgeted needs including support for our new Vicar and Derek Marshall

Children & Young People

Give thanks for:

- all our groups – Crèche, Praise & Play, J Club, Teens Group, Rainbows, Brownies & Guides.
- seeds sown, thanks for leaders and helpers who willingly devote themselves to this work.

Pray for:

- all leaders and helpers – most groups are term time only, please pray for a time of rest and renewal.
- more leaders and helpers and give thanks for those who have volunteered or who are considering taking on a new role. Pray for wisdom and discernment.
- older children moving on from our groups and younger ones ready to join in September.
- The restart of Sunday School in September.

A big thank you to all who have been involved with children & young peoples work over the past year.

Ministry Committee

Give thanks for:

- All the visiting clergy and the support they have given us during the Vacancy.
- the preaching ministry of Geoff, Jim, Ian and Val, and those who have led our Sunday and mid-week services.
- the talents and faithfulness of our singers, musicians, and visiting organists.
- The relevance of the house group studies on 'Meeting God in Change', and for all who participated in them
- Sue C-B and all who are involved (officially and unofficially) in the ministry of pastoral care at St. Chad's.

Pray for:

- Jenny Dennis in her roles as Chadderbox editor, in Baptism preparation and as she is licensed as a Pastoral Worker in September.
- Peter Armstrong as he co-ordinates the music for services; for another keyboard player to join the group so that regular practices can be held, and our music developed.
- the frail and vulnerable members of our Church family, that their spiritual needs will not be overlooked.
- support, encouragement, and sensitivity for the prayer ministry teams.
- the ministry of all who serve the Lord as sidespeople or 'behind the scenes' – that St. Chad's may always be a welcoming and caring Church.
- the Committee members and Steve Burmester as we work together to plan the services, house group studies, and other aspects of Ministry at St Chad's during the coming months.
- Our continuing ministry to those seeking support through weddings and baptisms.

Mission Committee

Give thanks for:

- Good time recently with Natalie and Josh Carlson and continuing contact with Jane Larkman.
- Many different links with work in Uganda.
- The setting up of 'Respect Handforth' as a vehicle for our involvement in the local community.
- Continued good relations and cooperation between Churches Together in Handforth, our Pentecost Praise and recent BBQ.

Pray for:

- Natalie and Josh and their work in Calvary Chapel, Kampala. Also for Roger and Jean Tripp (Mildmay) and Carlos and Gill Olaka.
- Plans for 'Back to Church' Sunday on September 28th and Harvest on October 5th.
- All those contacted through our Coffee Mornings, Oasis, Ladies' and Men's Breakfasts and other activities
- Further activities planned with Churches Together and Respect Handforth, especially Hope 08 Community Carol singing on Christmas Eve.