

## St. Paul's Barton Newsletter 29.04.21

### CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tepp



"Church work is getting me down. I think I'll focus on Jesus for a while."

### APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting)

Our meeting took place on Wednesday 28th April. Thank you to all those who were able to join us either in person or on Zoom. There were five vacancies on the PCC and the requirement to appoint two Churchwardens.

Elected as Churchwardens were Josephine and Andrew and to the PCC Penny and Kirsty.

On behalf of the PCC and the church we extend our sincere thanks to Kathy for all her service and input as she now stands down from the PCC.

Our Sunday services are streamed live on the church Facebook page and available to watch later on the church Facebook page, Website and YouTube channel. Audio copies of most of the talks are also available on the church website.

As the services are getting busier, if you would like to attend in person you need to book as due to ongoing Covid restrictions seating capacity is limited. **Remember that you must maintain strict social distancing in the church.** To book contact Ian (see the Church Directory for the number) contact us via the church website or text **07947 153 344**. **If you do book and are unable to come please cancel to allow the space for others.**

### What's Happening

Thursday 29th April at 7:30pm

Bible teaching from Rivi Litvin - The Trial of Jesus

To take part please contact us with your email address and you will then receive a Zoom invitation for the session along

with an email with a handout for the study from Rivi.

Saturday 1st May at 10:00am - 11:00am

Prayer for Israel & the Middle East (Zoom)

Contact us for a link.

Sunday 2nd May at 10:00am

5th Sunday of Easter

Worship & Communion Service - Canon Stuart Holt.

Join us on Zoom for Coffee at 12noon after the Sunday Service Phone or text **07947 153 344** or contact us via the church website for a link.

Monday 3rd May - Early May Bank Holiday.

Tuesday 4th May at 12noon

Churches Working Together in Newport - Leaders Meeting.

Wednesday 5th May at 7:15pm

Wednesday Fellowship Group (Zoom).

This is a continuation of the previous Tuesday Group that studied 40 Days with Jesus. Contact us for a link. Speak to Rev. Dennis Lloyd for more information.

Wednesday 5th May at 7:30pm

P.C.C. Standing Committee Meeting (Zoom).

Wednesday 5th May at 7:30pm

Evening Prayer (at home) at 7:30pm.

If you can, join with us at home as we come before God.

Readings: *Psalms 98, 99 & 100, Numbers Ch12 and Luke Ch5 v12-26.*

Collect:

Risen Christ,

*your wounds declare your love for the world*

*and the wonder of your risen life:*

*give us compassion and courage*

*to risk ourselves for those we serve,*

*to the glory of God the Father. Amen*

Sunday 9th May at 10:00am

Word and Worship Service - Rev. Dozie Moneme.

Monday 10th May at 7:30pm

Monday Fellowship Group (Zoom) - Speak to Andrew for more information. Contact us for a link.

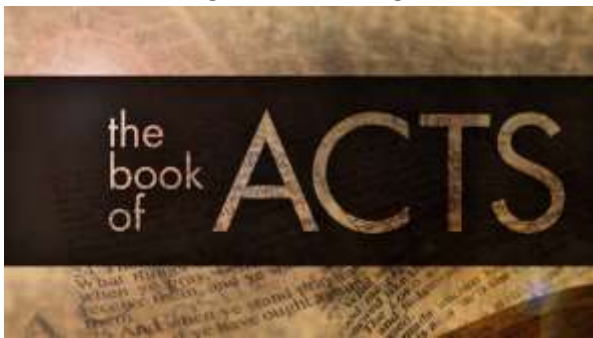
### 'Tuesday Group' becomes 'Wednesday Group'!

Following on from the weekly Tuesday (Zoom) Fellowship Group set up for the 40 Days with Jesus series, starting on Wednesday 5th May, the group will now meet fortnightly (in term time) on **Wednesdays at 7:15pm** led by Rev. Dr. Dennis Lloyd.

The group will be studying the book of Acts. Rev. Dennis says "The book of Acts is both easy and hard to study. It is easy when we bring a lot of our own thoughts to it, rather trying to discover what Luke's interests were in writing it.



Our hope is to discover Luke's interests and what they mean for us and modern church. If we do the text justice it will both challenge and encourage us. We will look at theology, ethics and Christian experience and practice.



As a start, please find time to read the

entire book preferably in one sitting to get the 30,000ft view of the book. If any issues or questions hit you as you read then make a note of them and hopefully we can discuss them in more detail later.

But the most important thing is to read the whole book so that as we study it together in smaller chunks you will have the broader sweep in mind

Read Acts 1 two or three times, reflect on what you read noting any questions or points that may strike you, perhaps for the first time. Pray for understanding as we together seek to discover what Luke is saying to us and what it means for us now. Let us build up and encourage each other for God's greater glory."

Contact us for a Zoom link and Rev. Dennis for more information.

**Bits & Pieces >>> Cleaners this week** - This week the church is being cleaned by Liz C, Liz D and David - thank you!

**A Big 'Happy Birthday' to Beryl** for this Sunday! Not saying how old... (21 with 39 years experience!) Bless you!

### Offering / Giving

If you are part of St. Paul's and have not yet committed to regular giving, we ask you to prayerfully seek God's will regarding this.



#### Ways to Give:

**Set up a Standing Order** from your bank, you can request a form from Penny (our treasurer), or download one from our website. Just fill it in and send it to her (see church directory) or phone her for more details or to arrange for your form to be collected.

**You can send a cheque**, payable to: **PCC of St. Paul's (Barton Parish)** to Penny.

If you use online banking, you can give to St. Paul's by **Bank Transfer or by setting up a Standing Order**. Details of the church bank account are:

Bank: **NatWest Newport Isle of Wight** Account Name: **Parochial Church Council of St. Pauls, Barton Parish** Sort Code: **54-10-34** Account Number: **92513263**

If you are a tax payer and have not filled in a **Gift Aid Form** these are available from Penny or on the church website.

### Rivi Litvin's Bible Teaching (Zoom) - Update...

Those of you who have managed to join us will no doubt together with me, still be thinking on the blessings of the studies we have now completed regarding Jesus' teaching of Torah, the Purim parashah and the Passover seder. Thank you Rivi so very much! Let me take this opportunity to encourage all of us to send Rivi donations for this valuable work she is doing with us.

Donations for classes can be sent to: <http://paypal.me/HopeOfIsrael> Alternatively email Rivi in order to get her bank details and arrange an electronic bank transfer.

Some of you have already joined in the first of a new study that Rivi is taking us through, the trial of Jesus. The first study has left us considering "who actually went out to arrest Jesus? Was there really a trial?" This study is likely to carry on for another six or so sessions. Integrated with this we are going to do a study on Shavuot (Weeks / Pentecost / Whitsun) at the appropriate time:

Session dates are as follows:

29th April – Trial study.

13th May – Shavuot study.

27th May – Trial study.

10th June – Trial study.

24th June – Trial study.

8th July – Trial study.

22nd July – Trial study.

After this we are thinking to do a six session study on Sabbath.

If you are interested in this in depth teaching and would like to take part please contact us with your email address and you will then receive a Zoom invitation for the session along with an email with a handout for the study from Rivi.

We look forward to seeing you on Zoom.

God bless you,

**John Q.**

PS. If you no longer wish to join in with the studies or receive my emails, let me know and I'll take you off the list.

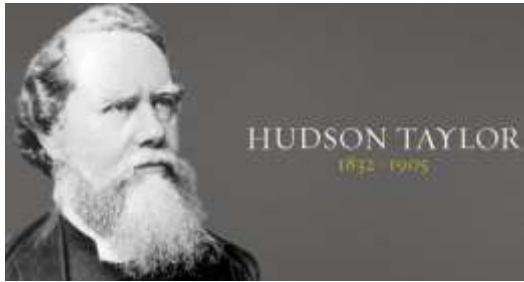
### Are You Shining?

**Matthew 25:23 His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.**

It was a stormy night in Birmingham, and Hudson Taylor was to speak at a meeting at the Severn Street schoolroom. His hostess assured him that nobody would attend on such a stormy night, but Taylor insisted on going. "I must go even if there is no one but the doorkeeper." Less than a dozen people showed up, but the meeting was marked with unusual spiritual power.

Half of those present either became missionaries or gave their children as missionaries; and the rest were faithful supporters of the China Inland Mission for years to come. Hudson Taylor was going to be faithful to speak even if it was to only one person. Today, God may be calling you to speak to that one person.

D.L. Moody once said: "God has called us to shine, just as much as Daniel was sent into Babylon to shine. Let no one



say that he cannot shine because he has not so much influence as some others may have. What God

wants you to do is to use the influence you have. Daniel probably did not have much influence down in Babylon at first, but God soon gave him more because he was faithful and used what he had."

God is looking for those who are willing to be faithful! He wants to use us in ways we could never or would never have imagined – but in order for that to transpire we need to be faithful in the little things and we need to be available when He calls!

**George Whitten** - <https://worthyministries.com>

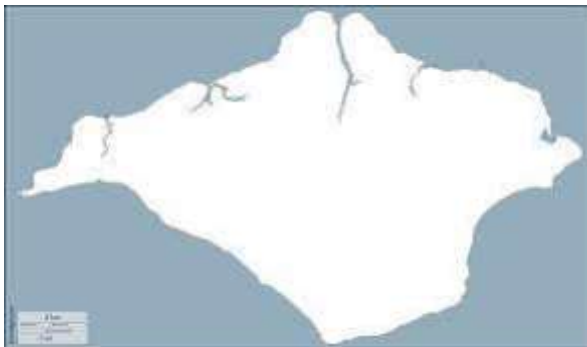
### Isle of Wight Deanery Synod News

The lay members of the IW Deanery Synod met on Monday 26th April on Zoom to discuss and provide feedback on the IW Deanery 'Mission Action Plan'. All seven Deaneries in the Portsmouth Diocese are required to produce a plan for the future that has to be approved and agreed by the Bishop/Diocese.

Although somewhat 'low-key' and seeking more informal outworking at this stage it is clearly a long term plan for formal parish reorganisation say over a 5-year period. It is also apparent that this type of planning is a requirement upon Dioceses in seeking funding from the Church Commissioners.

Is it all just about money? is the question often asked. Well yes and no. Finance is obviously required to provide paid clergy and a staffed Diocesan infrastructure and ideally some 'left over' for mission...

The CofE in general and in particular many Island churches



need somehow to combat and address longstanding issues over declining and small congregations, falling income, old and expensive to maintain buildings as well as the increasing costs involved in providing paid clergy for small and often rural parishes.

What then is to be done? Locally this current plan/phase/initiative/idea/scheme etc. (delete where applicable!) is based on grouping churches into 'hubs' geographically and seeking to encourage clergy and parish collaboration to allow for a Team Ministry to be introduced in the designated

area/group of churches.

The Synod meeting was set up as an opportunity for 'lay' people to explore and express opinions without clergy present(!). This worked well with all those present given an opportunity to speak and present any opinions or ideas etc.

Bearing in mind the implications, the meeting seemed surprisingly poorly attended and of those present some didn't seem to be fully briefed or acquainted with what had transpired so far in this process. This may of course be due to communication issues or changes in representatives following the required re-election of Synod Reps last year.

In general, the response from most parishes would appear to be cautious or just content to keep a watching brief. The usual concerns relating to any form of reorganisation/change were also voiced - "How will it save money?" Some 'hubs' considered too large. Effect on parish share. Those in authority need to listen more and the possible effects on churchmanship and worshiping tradition to name a few.



Under the current proposals, **Barton** would remain outside the various hubs and work collaboratively with other parishes on the Island sharing our biblically orthodox evangelical churchmanship. I was able to encourage those present with the huge opportunities for promoting the Gospel this approach would leave us with as a parish as well as pointing out the opportunities raised by our relationships with GAFCON and the Evangelical Alliance.

This process is of course ongoing and involves discussion in many areas involving parishes, clergy the Deanery and Diocese. Do please pray for the Lord's will for his church on the Island as it seeks to honour him and move forward. If you would like to know more or see a copy of the current draft of the IW Deanery Plan do let me know.

I'll keep you posted!

**Kevin** - *St. Paul's Deanery Synod Rep.*

### News from New Wine...

Save the date! United Breaks Out is coming to you and your church FOR FREE this summer:

**Thursday 29 July – Tuesday 3 August 2021**

In 2020 we experienced the Holy Spirit bringing breakthrough, healing and restoration in the lives of thousands through our first United Breaks Out (UBO) digital event:

*'The time to allow the Holy Spirit to heal old wounds has been wonderful'*

*'I felt Jesus was speaking directly to me'*

We're praying that God will use United Breaks Out powerfully again this summer. And with more freedom to gather, we're excited about the opportunity to enable church families to connect, build community, and experience and encounter Jesus together. Please share the news with your

church - and find some outside space for a barbecue!



### UBO & YOUR CHURCH

We're inviting churches to join together with us to run local UBO gatherings for church communities. Look out for further details on how to register your church to receive support and resources from the New Wine team, including our Kids and Luminosity (youth) teams.

### UBO & NEW WINE ONLINE

New Wine Online is part of our vision to resource and empower the New Wine community all year round. It's our digital hub that launched in March and has a growing community of over 800 members. All UBO content will be included with annual membership, plus over 90 additional seminars, interviews and live conversations.

If you're not yet a member, no need to wait 'til July. You can start your membership now and access new teaching, live conversations, small group resources, plus a library of past New Wine talks! Find out more and become a member – for less than 20p a day - at [new-wine.org/hub](http://new-wine.org/hub)

### FAITH & OBEDIENCE

All the main celebrations, kids' and youth sessions will be available completely free of charge. This wasn't our original plan - we've been preparing to open bookings for a paid online event to cover ongoing costs and the loss of income from cancelled physical gatherings.

But we believe God has asked us to take a step of faith and obedience. We believe he has a plan to resource, empower and equip you and your church this summer, for the sake of the nation. So, responding to a strong prophetic sense, we are following his call to give UBO away for free, in faith.

We can't wait to gather with you again this summer - to connect with God and each other in our homes, parks, gardens, churches and communities!

With every blessing,

**The New Wine Team**

### From The Diocese

### **Bishop Christopher - Highlights from the past 10 years**

We've been sharing highlights of Bishop Christopher's time as Bishop of Portsmouth via social media over the past few days. If you would like to relive some of those special moments, from his installation in 2010 to his pilgrimages to the Holy Land; from his time visiting Ghana to special services of

ordination and licensing, visit the Diocesan website.

### **Our next bishop**

A reminder that we have reached a significant stage in the process to appoint a new Bishop of Portsmouth. Our vacancy-in-see committee has created our diocese's Statement of Needs (the diocesan equivalent of a parish profile). This has been sent to the Crown Nominations Commission as they start work to appoint a successor to Bishop Christopher. You can read the document for yourself, and check on the whole vacancy-in-see process.

### **Thy Kingdom Come 2021**

#### Prayer meetings

The annual 10 days of prayer as part of Thy Kingdom Come happens this year from **May 13-23**, between Ascension Day and Pentecost Sunday. It's the time of year when we pray for our family and friends to know the love of God and embrace the Christian faith. Prayer this year is likely to happen both in person (where possible) and digitally. We'd love to hear about your plans for local, creative and ecumenical prayer happening as part of this year's initiative.

Download resources from the Thy Kingdom Come website – there's a prayer journal, novena, prayer escape room, adventure map and much more. Then let us know about your prayer events here, and we'll help to publicise what you are doing.

### **Carisbrooke Priory**

The Priory is planning to reopen to the public, restrictions allowing, on Tuesday 18th May 2021, and this time we hope and pray that we can remain open!

With our grateful thanks for your continued support in these rather unprecedented and challenging times!

### **World Day Of Prayer 2021**



**"Praying for Vanuatu"**  
**\*\*\*A Service for Everyone\*\*\***

This year's event on the Island will take place on **Friday 21st May** at 10:30am in the Salvation Army Citadel in Pyle Street, Newport.

To book a seat contact the Salvation Army on **01983 526312**



[www.gafconiow.org.uk](http://www.gafconiow.org.uk)