

IN TOUCH

January 2024

St. Luke's Church, St Luke's Road T. Wells TN4 9JH www.stlukestw.co.uk



When we published the December "In Touch" we hadn't yet had the final result for the Christmas Fair, but we can now tell you that we made over £2,400 profit. This was a wonderful result, and once again congratulations and many thanks to the Fund Raising Team and all those who helped out and supported the Fair in any way.

Our Christmas celebrations in church started with the Explorers Nativity (although some of us had also enjoyed the Nursery Nativity on the previous Friday morning). Leaders work incredibly hard to get young people on the stage in the right place helping tell the story and it was a real treat. We also have some wonderful photographs which will be appearing in the Parish Profile – more of that in a moment. Our Carol Service was filled with beautiful carols – thank you so much to the singing group who sung so beautifully, and to the readers who made the familiar readings as moving as ever. We had our Christmas Communion on the morning of Christmas Eve thanks to Revd., Anthony Hammill who joined us to take the service and then just over 230 people rocked up in the afternoon for the Crib Service, which was as fun as ever. How lovely to see so many people wanting to touch the true meaning of Christmas. Christmas Day saw a slightly smaller congregation (!), but again were moved by the joy of the story of the birth of Christ – Emmanuel – God with us. We are now looking forward to our Christingle Service on January 28th which will close the church's Christmas season.

It has not been the easiest of times as Sue had a fall early in December and broke a bone in her shoulder and then Jo caught Covid just before Christmas. Other members of the congregation were also unwell, and needed our prayers. The church owes an enormous debt of gratitude to Gerry who carried on solo – except not solo because others stepped up to the plate, some giving up their own arrangements to help out, and we are so thankful for all that they did. The church family by pulling together to make sure it all happened ensured we were able to join with all the other churches in the town celebrating the birth of our Lord.

This month the PCC will meet for our Section 11 meeting which is part of the formal process of recruitment, which can then start going forward. We have nearly completed our Parish Profile, which with the addition of some wonderful photographs taken by Michael Edwards gives a good picture of who we are and where we might want to go! At this meeting we will be choosing two representatives from the PCC who will work with the Archdeacon and the Patrons on recruiting a new Vicar. We will let you know who they are – but they have to work confidentially and are not able to discuss any of it with any of us – so please don't expect them to tell you before any announcements can be made – and that is some way off yet. We are only at the start of things.

Meanwhile we wish everyone a New Year filled with blessings, and hopefully better health for all.

Sue, Gerry and Jo

Coming Soon

PCC Meeting at 7.30 on Tuesday 9th January in church. This will be the Section 11 meeting. Lent starts on Ash Wednesday – February 14th. More details about our Lent arrangements to come.

Fund Raising Events

Plant Sale during the morning of May 18th & Summer Fair June 28th
(Please add these dates to your diary)



Services in January

Sunday 7th January

10am Parish Communion

Explorers meet in the hall

Sunday 14th January

10am Morning Worship

Explorers meet in the hall

Sunday 21st January

10am Parish Communion

Explorers meet in the hall

Sunday 28th January

10am ATW Christingle -Everyone in church

Church Contacts

Vicar: position currently vacant

Church Warden Sue Pearch

Licenced Lay Minister – Jo Wheeler **Reader with PTO** –Gerry Wenham

Parish Safeguarding Officer -Gerry Wenham

Email: gewenham@gmail.com

tel. 07876164425

Parish Administrator – Christine Stevens

Email: parish.admin@stlukestw.co.uk Tel. 07964152140

please call or text between 11am and 6pm weekdays only

For general contact with the church please phone 07842738320

Or email: lukestw.church@btinternet.com