

SUNDAY 5TH MAY 2024

CHRISTIAN AID COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY 18TH MAY

10:00 - 12:00

Balderton Methodist Church Hall

RETRO PARTY COMING SOON

Join us in St Giles' Community Hall on Friday 7th June from 7.30 pm till late for 60's/70's & 80's music. Tickets £10 each available from Eventbrite.

Bring your own nibbles and drinks.

All proceeds will go towards St Giles' Community Hall's floor campaign.

SERVICES

Wednesday 1st May
7.30 pm Encounter (online)

Thursday 2nd May
10.00 am Holy Communion, St Giles

Sunday 5th May
10.00 am Family Communion, St Giles
4.00 pm Free to Be, St Giles

Tuesday 7th May
10.00 am Coffee & Prayer Time (online)

Wednesday 8th May
7.30 pm Encounter (online)

Thursday 9th May: Ascension Day
10.00 am Holy Communion, St Giles
7.30 pm Ascension Day Eucharist, St Giles

Sunday 12th May
10.00 am Family Communion, St Giles
10.00 am Holy Communion, All Saints, Coddington

APCM DATES

St Giles Balderton: Sunday 5th May at 4pm in church
All Saints, Barnby: Monday 13th May at 7pm in church
All Saints, Coddington: Tuesday 14th May at 7pm in church

MAY'S LETTER FROM THE MINISTRY TEAM

Dear Friends,

I'm sure I'm not the only one who has had enough of the cold, wet weather. Even when the forecast dares to predict a dry day the rain manages to put in an appearance. In fact on more than one occasion lately I have found myself reciting a poem from my infant school days, "Rain rain go away, come again another day."

For many the excessive rain has caused enormous stress as their homes have been flooded and with the threat of more wet weather in the future, anxiety is never far away.

The wet conditions have created a problem for our beloved community hall, in Balderton, as the rising water table has caused the floor in the large hall to fail, resulting in the need to take it up, carry out work underneath and replace it with a new floor. As you can imagine, this was a shock, and I am very grateful to our hall users for the understanding, co-operation and patience during the time that the hall has been out of action. A wonderful bonus for me was the opportunity to welcome Rainbows into church during their session. It was a delight to spend time with them!

The floor is well on the way to being repaired now and normal service will resume, but we are left with a hefty bill and are looking for ways to raise funds to help cover the cost. If you can help by making a donation or have any fundraising ideas you could share with us please let us know. We would love to hear from you.

St Giles Community Hall is a much-used space that is valued by so many groups and families. We appreciate the opportunity the hall offers us to serve our community. Our prayer is that God may continue to bless the neighbourhood through its use across each week.

We are blessed with three beautiful church buildings in our benefice and all of them need constant maintenance. Our thanks go to the wonderful Church Wardens who, so often unnoticed, oversee their care. If you would like to support one of our church buildings, either through a donation or volunteering, please get in touch, we would love to hear from you.

As well as hoping for more spring-like weather in May, we also look forward to celebrating Pentecost on Sunday 19th May. On this day we remember how the Holy Spirit came upon Jesus' first followers as they gathered in a room to pray and transformed them from being unsure and fearful to bold and clear in their proclamation of the gospel. It is from this powerful beginning that the early church emerged and we, two thousand years later, continue to share the message of love, forgiveness, hope and new beginnings.

Amid so much uncertainty and bad news across the world, we need hope and the good news of Jesus' love for all is full of hope that we can put our trust in, whoever we are, wherever we are.

With love and prayer,
Revd Louise

READINGS

Collect

Risen Christ, by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples: help your Church to obey your command and draw the nations to the fire of your love, to the glory of God the Father.

Acts 10. 44-end

44 While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. 45 The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, 46 for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 47 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' 48 So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

1 John 5. 1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ[a] has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. 2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. 3 For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, 4 for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. 5 Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

6 This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

John 15. 1-6

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. 2 He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes[a] to make it bear more fruit. 3 You have already been cleansed[b] by the word that I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. 6 Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.

Post Communion Prayer

God our Father, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life: may we thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness, through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.