



# Link Up!

**‘Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.’ Galatians 6:9**

## During September:

On **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September**, with Ken and family still on holiday, Janet Matterface will be leading the service which will include communion. We will be looking at Acts 2: 1 – 21 – ‘The Holy Spirit for all’. She would like to give an opportunity in the service for anyone who would like to share a testimony of God’s work in their lives recently. Please see Janet if you have something to share.

On **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September** Ken will be back with us and we will be looking at 1 Corinthians 12 – ‘The Spirit Equips’.

Then on **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September** we will be looking at Ephesians 5: 15- 21 – ‘The Spirit Influences’.

And on **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September** we will be looking at Galatians 5: 13 – 26 – ‘The Spirit Transforms’.

Our Monday Bible Study group and our ‘Wednesday Night in’ Bible Study on Zoom will start back after the summer break on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September and Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September.

On **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September** there will be a **Church Members’ Meeting** after the morning service. Church Members please bring your lunch with you, and we will provide drinks as usual. The agenda will be sent to members nearer the time.

I’m sure I’m not the only one who was completely blown away by the success of our Garden Opening Event. After months of planning and preparation, and loads of hard work on the day we saw over 150 people from the local community join us for an afternoon of fun and cake. Some of these people were friends and family, some were from groups that use our building, many were locals who had seen posters, flyers and online publicity. One couple even came all the way from Swanage so that they could avoid the Bank Holiday bustle there!

The event sent a clear message to the local community that LBC is alive and well and that we are part of that community. I hope it also sent a clear message to us. Many of you will have seen the church decline over the years, and perhaps even decades, but this event showed us that people are still interested in church to some extent. It’s fair to say that I was caught off-guard by the success of the event and the challenge for me and for all of us now is how do we follow this up?

#### Other notices:

On **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October** we will be celebrating our **Harvest Thanksgiving**. We will be collecting food items for Poole Foodbank and also taking an offering for the work of Operation Agri towards their 2025 appeal 'Trees, Bees and Seeds'. Envelopes will be available nearer the time and don't forget that, if you have a Gift Aid number with the Church, you can Gift Aid your donations to Operation Agri as well.

After the service we will have our Harvest Lunch and a Social Time. The list to sign up for your Ploughman's Lunch choice is on the notice board in the entrance. We are asking for a donation towards the cost of the food, if you are able to afford this. £5 per head is a suggested amount.

Then on **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October**, Ken is away preaching at St George's C of E in Oakdale. **We plan to have one of our popular 'Songs of Praise' services** where you can choose a favourite song or hymn or maybe share a verse of scripture which means a lot to you. Janet needs to receive your choices of songs or hymns and scripture verses by Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September at the latest.

#### A thank you from Mary Wills

A Big thank you for all your prayers, cards and telephone calls, they are very much appreciated. I am feeling a lot better now and hope to be with you all soon.

Love Mary x

As we near the start of a new academic year, many families with children are getting ready for a fresh beginning; new schools, new classes. My own eldest is getting ready to leave home and move to university. One of the ministries of the Holy Spirit that we have thought about recently is that of bringing new life, new beginnings in Christ. Can we as a Church, and we as individual Christians, be a part of the Spirit's desire to breathe new life into our communities? Can we dare to hope that the Spirit may desire and be able to breathe new life into our Church?

At the end of Matthew 9 Jesus said that 'the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.' We were blessed to see just a glimpse of that potential harvest in the 150 or so people that came to our fete, and knowing how hard we all worked to make it happen, we may baulk at the task that Jesus has set before us. However, he goes onto say 'Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.' I've said it before, and I'll say it again (and no doubt again and again!), we are not called by God to be Lone Rangers, individual labourers out in the field by ourselves. But God had given us the gift of the Church, to fulfil that task of harvesting. Not only that, but he hasn't left us to get on with the task in our own human weakness, rather He is with us in the very real and very powerful presence of the Holy Spirit who dwells in us and amongst us.

My prayer is that over the coming weeks, months and years, we will work together as a church, in the power and unity of the Spirit to bring new hope and new life to the people of our communities.

*Rev Ken Adolphe*