

MAY 2018

The Wave....

... Waveney Valley Ecumenical Partnership



Minister's letter

By the time most of you read this Easter will be a distant memory, but I'm writing this on a Sunday afternoon when I am reflecting on Jesus' appearances after his death. The response of the people that he meets in these encounters is quite surprising, and range from; 'he must be the gardener', 'I won't believe unless I can put my hand in your side', 'we didn't know him until he broke bread with us', to being really afraid.

The thing that is common in all these encounters is that nobody expected Jesus to rise from the dead, so why would they expect to see him again? It wasn't that no-one was listening to what Jesus said when he was alive, it was simply that they could not comprehend the enormity of what he was telling them. Miracles had taken a little getting used to, but gradually as Jesus went about his ministry his disciples understood the power that God had given him. If fact when you see the unusual again and again it becomes commonplace, and maybe, just maybe, the disciples became a little blasé about them.

But telling tales of rising from the dead? Well that's a little different, and maybe in all of this Thomas is the only honest one who says that unless he sees with his own eyes he will not believe. We do not know whether the others believed without seeing, we only know that they did not expect to see Jesus and so their reactions were very human. How we would we react faced with this type of situation? I suspect we too would find great difficulty in processing the information before our eyes. Maybe it is easier to believe having never seen.....

Whatever way we look at things it is worth thinking honestly about what our reactions would be. I know that there will be people reading this who have had an experience of the risen Christ while others will not have had this type of event happen in their lives. It does not however diminish the believer, we know God calls all sorts and works through and with us.

Liquorice torpedo anyone?

Jacquie

Dates for your diary

Saturday 5th May – District Celebration at **6.30pm in St. Edmundsbury Cathedral** with Guest Speaker Rev'd Loraine Mellor, President of Methodist Conference. This is a free event with refreshments included. **AND**

7pm Orange Hall, Emmanuel Church – Gambian experience and quiz night, includes a Gambian feast, African-themed quiz with prizes, and live music and dancing from the Dumisani drumming group. Tickets £15.00, available from the Fisher Theatre, Bungay (ask for Ben). -proceeds from this event will go towards setting up a school vegetable garden in a Gambian village.

Sunday 13th May 10.30 am: Emmanuel Church, Bungay - Christian Aid Service with a guest speaker from the charity. **AND**

6pm – Wortwell URC – “Thy Kingdom Come” – led by Rev'd Nigel Tuffnell and Pat Williamson. This is our opportunity to share in this nationwide initiative, which runs from Ascension to Pentecost. This is the only opportunity in the Partnership to share in this event.

Wednesday 16th May – 2.30pm Emmaus Room, Emmanuel Church – Wednesday Fellowship – open to all – Speaker: Dorothy Courtis “Northern Lights”

Saturday 19th May, 10.00am – 1.00pm: Emmanuel Church Orange Hall - Spring Fayre. Stalls and Bacon rolls, coffees & teas will be served in our cafe. **AND**

10 – 12 – London Road Church – coffee morning with homemade cakes and a plant stall. **AND**

2pm Denton – Coffee and plant sale at Glebe Farm, Norwich Road IP20 OBB

Sunday 20th May 3 - 5 – London Road Church - afternoon tea in aid of church funds.

Thursday 24th May 7.30 p.m. London Road Church - Worship and song from Africa with Rev'd Lansford and Mrs Grace Penn Timmity showing dance moves and bringing recent news about the education of children in Malawi. Lansford and Grace are coming from Hull and this should be an inspiring evening.

Sunday 27th May 2.30 – 1030 – Partnership Service Emmanuel Church with our Dutch visitors, Holy Communion followed by a Bring and Share lunch **AND**

2.30 - 4.30 - An entertaining afternoon of music by the Waveney Brass Ensemble. Tickets (£6.00) can be purchased in advance: contact Tim Durell -0198689 4566, or Rod Woods- 0198689 3294.

Watch out for Street Collections for Christian Aid in Bungay and Harleston later in the month.

