

From the Rectory

Hello again,

Days are getting cooler and summer is behind us and Christmas decorations and merchandise are filling the shops.

As I write this, the news headlines seem very depressing. The wars in Gaza or Ukraine are no longer front page news every day. Unemployment rate has gone up, Archbishop of Canterbury has resigned due to a catastrophic safeguarding failure, a father, mother and uncle are prosecuted for the brutal murder of their 10 year old daughter. By the time you read this the headlines can be different. However, these are very sad matters.

No one is glad about the course of events. It is a time for sitting in silence together and realising our fragility; and for listening to and upholding those who've been through profound trauma. If these events have stirred up memories and emotions that are difficult and painful, please be in touch.

The news of Jesus' birth was first announced by the angels to the shepherds tending their sheep in the fields. It was not announced in the palaces of Caesar or Herod, or even the chief priests in Jerusalem temple. The shepherds hadn't had good news for a long time: they had to protect their sheep from thieves and predators, they were not paid much and they spent most of their days and nights in the open facing whatever the weather. The birth of Jesus was good news to them, gospel writer Luke tells us in Luke 2:20, "And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them". Through Jesus' birth, death and resurrection God is showing us who he truly is; the victorious victim. The victorious victim who is the light of the resurrection offers forgiveness, peace and healing to all.

With every blessing, your friend and pastor

Sudharshan

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Winter 2024



The Wyberton Church of St Leodegar Newsletter

It is more than a year since we published our last newsletter, and much has changed for Wyberton Parish Church. Reorganisation of the church parishes in Lincolnshire created two Local Mission Partnerships (LMP) in Boston Deanery. Wyberton is the Local Mission Church for South Boston LMP, eleven churches with 3 priests. More details are on page 2

*** Back Again - At Last ***



After a break of nearly 5 years the roadHog bus will again be in Wyberton. Once a fortnight on Friday evening at 7:30pm, starting 6th December.

The **new** bus with **new** facilities and a **new** local team to greet young visitors from year 6 upwards. And a **new** parking spot, in front of the Brylaine sheds next to the Co-op, on London Road, by the **new** light controlled crossing, there for your safety.

RoadHog tries to create a positive environment where young people can step inside and be accepted. The bus provides lots of activities from consoles to board games, from quizzes to crafts, from hot drinks to tuck shop and from our prayer room to praying the "Grace".

Loads more news and information from the churches at

<http://www.wybertonandframpton.org> &
<https://www.facebook.com/Wybertonandframpton.org>

News from the Pews

actually quite comfortable chairs...

Sudharshan, our rector, has also been made a Canon, which means he has a role in support of our cathedral at Lincoln, and is also now the Rural Dean for Boston. He is an increasingly busy man.

In another change the Parish of Algarkirk will shortly join with Wyberton; it is already being helped by our team and the link with Frampton Parish remains strong.

Wyberton Parish Children, Youth & Families Enabler

Some income has a restriction as to how it can be used, and a charity bequest from the 18th century now enables us to enhance the team supporting our Rector.

We are advertising to recruit a youth worker to support our activities with families and youngsters. This will strengthen the link between the church activities concerning the young (including roadHog).

School Visits



Most months during term time there is a visit to the church by one of the Wyberton Academy year groups where they 'experience' one of the festivals. This is year one students discovering the meaning of Advent

Love Christmas

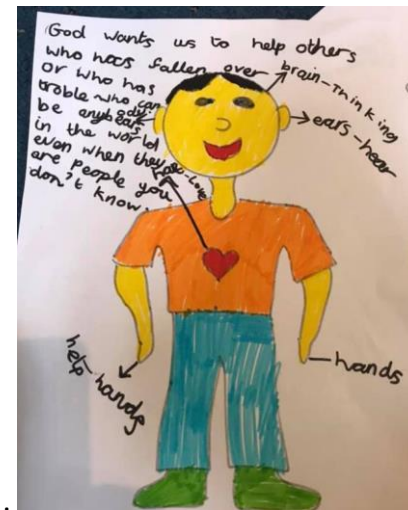
St Leodegars, Beacon Church and the United Reformed Church with the Wyberton Primary Academy, in the first year of the pandemic distributed Christmas Hampers to families in need of some extra cheer. From a dozen in 2020 to over fifty now, these contain presents for the children, as well as 'luxury' seasonal foods'



The Open House

The three Wyberton Churches, under the banner of 'The Open House', provide coffee mornings and other services to tackle loneliness. This becomes the 'Wyberton Warmth' facility in winter, providing a warm space with refreshment and company, and Bread and Soup lunches. We run Coffee Morning and Winter Warmer sessions on Monday and Wednesday at URC church from 10 am and serve soup at 12 noon. On the first Tuesday of each month there is also a Dementia Carers coffee morning at the URC church Wyberton from 10.30. Feel free to drop in at any of those for a chat and a cuppa.

The modern Good Samaritan by a school visitor.



Sudharshan offers us this prayer for all, to finish today.

Crown us, O God, but with humility,
and robe us with compassion,
that, as you call us into the kingdom of your Son,
we may strive to overcome all evil
by the power of good
and so walk gently on the earth
with you, our God, for ever.