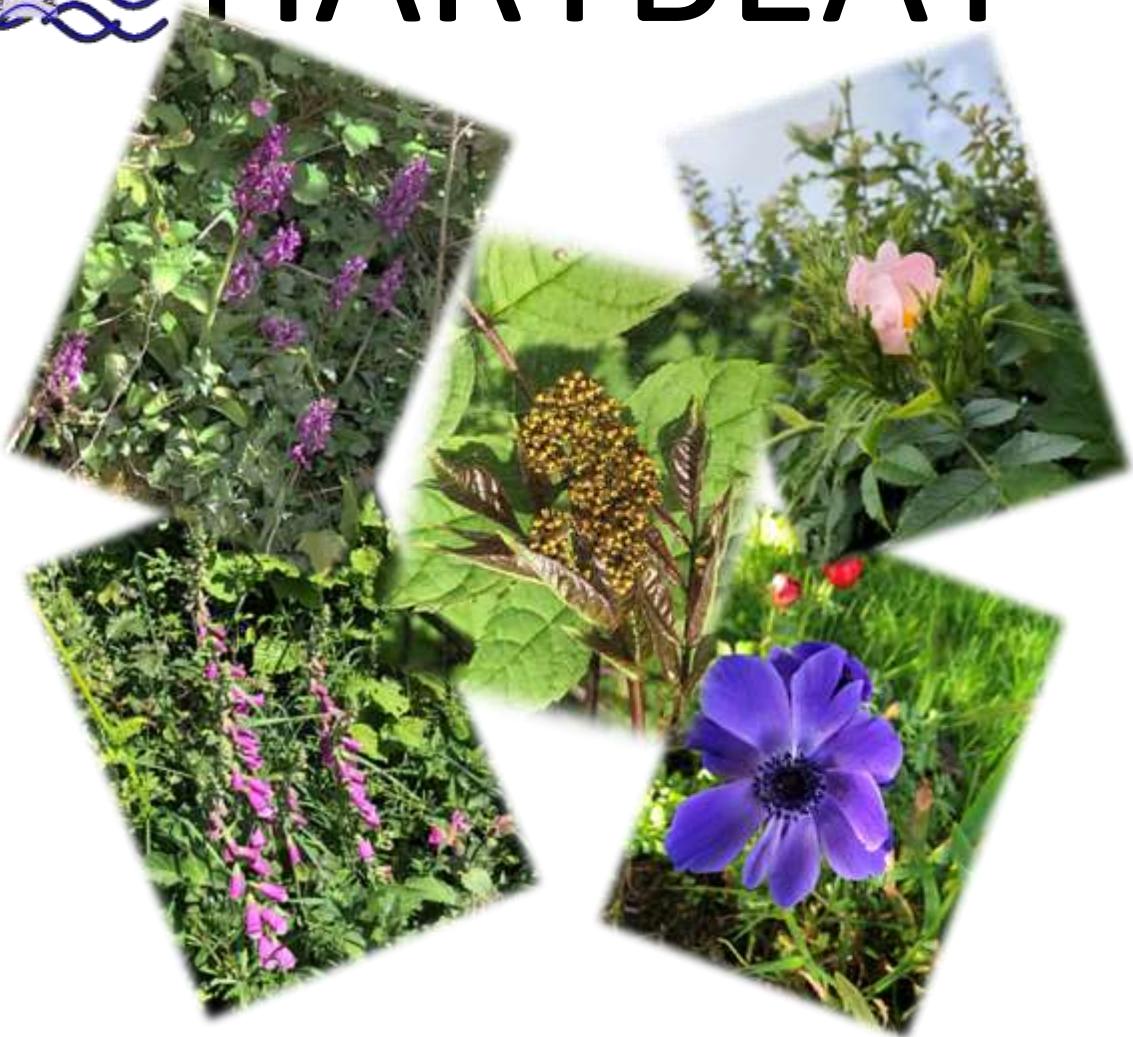




Hartland Coast Mission Community
Benefice of Parkham, Alwington, Buckland Brewer,
Hartland, Welcombe, Clovelly,
Woolfardisworthy West, Bucks Mills and Lundy

HARTBEAT



Volume 4 Issue 5

June / July 2020

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From Jane...

The Gift of Joy

How is the journey so far? Do you sometimes find yourself anxious, agitated, or tired? Under these strange and stressful conditions, we rarely find ourselves full of unexpected joy. So, my prayer for us is that we may have courage and strength for this time which is gradually changing but never certain. Also, that we may be blessed by God with occasional moments of pleasure and joy.

Perhaps you may decide to use some of this time to sort through some old photographs – or if like me – revisit some holiday snaps that ended numbering in the thousands because of the luxury of digital photography. How many more I take because I am not inserting a film and want each one to be worth the cost of developing. Do you remember all those envelopes with different offers for the cost of development with kodak and the like? How I used to anticipate the return of films and look through hoping for some sharp, bright images that captured what I remembered of a holiday.

What image would you suggest portraying the last few weeks of limitation and confinement. Every so often I am sent a funny video or caption that gives me the welcome giggles. The temptation is to look back over days that are merging into weeks and think that nothing differentiates between them. But there is contrast: VE Day with the unexpected generosity of a neighbour coming forward with a tray of generously prepared savoury & sweet treats to enjoy at the afternoon picnic. One evening when I thought I heard something and found a ‘Random Act of Kindness’ gift wrapped and left on the doorstep to be found and surprise. The table outside All Hallows church regularly refilled with offerings from those with greenhouses or green fingers, able to bring on seedlings to the point of being young plants to share.

The point in common is its people who have been the highlights and given joy, creating the memories that set days apart. Perhaps sometimes you have been the source of blessing or maybe you are in a situation where you are not

mobile and become mostly the recipient. For good thing to be shared and multiplied, we need open hands and hearts to receive and pass on.

So ‘Thank you’ to all in the community who are noticing and choosing to give help and care. You might like to share a photo recording something that has given you joy and made a difference to one day, elevating it in your memory. Do send in Tricia to include in next Hartbeat or Nick for the website. Keep noticing and celebrating sources of joy. God may use you to bring joy to another this month. Or, as Jesus said in John 15:10-11, “When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father’s commandments and remain in his love. I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow!”



Ed. I thought you might enjoy this shot, taken last summer...



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~~Office hours: Mon / Tues / Thurs / Fri mornings 10am to midday.~~

Answerphone in operation.

Please note that, for the time being, I am not keeping regular office hours, but working from home and going in only to deal with post and any printing which needs doing. I can check messages and answer emails from home (just as I have always done), so do keep in touch.

Tricia

website: hartlandcoastchurches.org

Facebook: Hartland Coast Mission Community

Ecumenical contacts

Superintendent Methodist Minister Revd. Rob Blackhall 01805 628041

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Hartland Coast Mission Community

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AROUND THE PARISHES

a few personal accounts

Parkham

Holy Week Tableaux

It was late in the afternoon of the Saturday before Palm Sunday. The “greenery decoration”, with the dove holding it all together, was ready. It was to be hung over the porch of my friend Neil’s cottage, opposite Parkham church: where I am in “lockdown”. I was reminiscing about all the Holy Week devotions in which I’d participated, and how much I was going to miss them this year. A light in my brain flickered: why not bring the Holy Week Stories to Parkham. I ran the idea by Neil and the “Parkham Tableaux” was launched. Neil got to work straight away, he went to his shed and made an ‘A’ Board: and I started reading.

By Palm Sunday morning the “greenery decoration” was over the porch. Outside the cottage, the ‘A’ Board was in place, telling everyone who passed by what we would be doing during the coming week, and why; what would be happening the following day, together with the Bible verse; and, asking if the people of Parkham would like to participate in the venture.

On the Monday morning of Holy Week the ‘A’ Board was outside, and the tableau, “Jesus overturns the tables in Temple” was in the window. Each day right through ‘til Easter Day, there was a new story and a new tableau. Since my Confirmation in Alwington, in 1987, Holy Week, for me had always been contemplative. However, this year’s Holy Week seemed “to come alive” for me; I had the opportunity to experience a different type of devotions. Perhaps it was because I had to be more inventive, or maybe the figures and the scenery that Neil produced for his window, was a visual picture for both of us.

As I write this, Pentecost followed by Ascension won’t be far away; and thereby, perhaps, giving us an opportunity to take our Church Life out into our communities: helping the people of our parishes and our villages and our town to celebrate these glorious Festivals of our Church Year.

Happy Easter, the words I’ve not been able to say to many of you over the last couple of weeks.

Eunice Dunn

Hartbeat 4-5



Palm Sunday



The Last Supper



Jesus overturns the tables



Jesus is arrested



The Widow's Offering



Jesus is laid in the tomb



Judas agrees to betray Jesus



The Empty Tomb

Clovelly

Obviously there's not a lot to report this time. It was a great disappointment that we were not able to celebrate Palm Sunday with our donkey procession to the village, or Easter Sunday, also not able to ring the bells on V.E. Day, so we look forward to when things are back to normal and we can open up our lovely church again.

However it is not all gloom and doom - the village has really pulled together and with the help of some wonderful volunteers we have had our medications delivered, fruit and veg boxes to our doors, fish and chips for our evening meals.

Neighbours helping neighbours. A real Christian spirit. So thank you to all. May the community feeling continue when this situation is over.
Thank you to everyone.

Sue Curtis

Woolsery

Although All Hallows has been in lockdown, we have managed to support an initiative set up by Asta Munro - a bring and share plant table on the green just outside the lych gate and with the tap normally associated with the grave yard



being used to water the plants. The table has proved very popular with local folk and those not swapping plants have donated to charity. A very worthwhile community activity!

Colin Pomeroy



THANK YOU

Dear Friends,

Thank you to all those of you who came to my last Songs of Praise Service and to those who contacted me wishing they could be with us.

Thank you so much for the beautiful painting of all our churches within which it has been a privilege to worship and to serve as a Reader. Thank you also for the beautiful flowers which I much enjoyed on my arrival here in Puddletown and for the very generous cheque. When this current crisis is over I shall choose something special to remind me of my time with you.

Thank you all for your friendship and the very many cards and good wishes I have received. I have very special memories of my time in North Devon and look forward to seeing you all again when travel and human contact restrictions are lifted.

With love and thanks,

Margaret

“STAYING ALERT!”

I thought I would get your attention by making use of the latest slogan by the English Government as we

continue to experience the Covid19 Coronavirus pandemic. Actually, I hope that I have remained alert ever since this dreadful period of our history began back in March. I have remained very active, not having taken the opportunity provided during the ‘lockdown’ to hunker down to watch television, read books, eat and doze! I am too much of an activist by nature to enter a state of semi hibernation and therefore found my energy levels increasing rather than decreasing!

We have good biblical injunction for staying alert!

Mark 13:3. Jesus says: “As you don’t know when the end times will come, stay alert and keep watch!”

Ephesians 6: 18. Paul says “Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all Christians everywhere”

1 Thessalonians 5:6: “Don’t be asleep like the others – stay alert and sober!”

1 Peter 5: 8. Peter says “Stay alert! Watch out from attacks from the Devil – your great enemy.”

An attitude of watchful alertness is clearly to be a characteristic of a wise Christian! There are many dangers around us, not only from the deadly virus but from our

spiritual foes. Covid19 has the obvious potential to destroy our bodies but evil powers have the power to destroy our souls. Jesus states this very starkly in Matthew 10: 28: “Don’t be afraid of those who want to kill you. They can only kill your body; they cannot touch your soul. Fear only God, who can destroy both soul and body in hell.” I find this a profoundly chilling verse, and realisation of this has affected my attitudes to life.

I thought you might like to know a little about how I have been staying alert, active and alive over the past few months, in the village of Woolsery.

- ~ Morning and Evening Prayer shared with my wife, Jane, in her study!
- ~ Turning what I have been reading in daily quality newspapers into prayer over the pandemic.
- ~ Several hours of e mails, especially with my key church contacts. (Each church has a nominated key rep.; some are churchwardens whilst others are officers of church PCCs), and our two wonderful Lay readers (Trevor May and Jim Williams). I have had a huge volume of advice from the Church of England in the form of responses to FAQs, to disseminate and explain).

- ~ Online meetings with the Mission Community Chapter and diocesan leadership.
- ~ Conducting a certain number of graveside Funeral Services – which are allowed by regulations.
- ~ Feeding my own soul by reading daily internet ‘posts’ by Christian leaders and organisations. The most inspiration and profound thoughts have been courtesy of Richard Rohr (from America).
- ~ Speaking to my mother every few days by ‘WhatsApp’, during her stay in a Care Home in London.
- ~ Plus plenty of gardening in this glorious Spring weather. We have an allotment in the village, and I have been digging this over in preparation for planting a range of vegetables. Many have been freely provided by some very kind individuals – I will repay once the crops have grown to maturity!

So, as you can see, I have been very alert, and prevented the noonday devil (‘acedia’) from getting a grip on my soul. Doubtless you have found ways to also stay alert and are enjoying this unprecedented period as much as you can. I know it has not been easy for many people – especially the fear of the virus and the heightened sense of loneliness in isolation. But by being alert to

the opportunities as well as disadvantages of these days I hope and pray you make it through to the ‘sunlit uplands’ when we can meet face to face in a few months’ time.

Please remember you can get in touch with members of the Ministry Team if you would like to talk and share about your joys and sorrows as we ‘Stay Alert’!

Revd Stephen Skinner

Hartland

Life as we knew it came to rather an abrupt halt on Tuesday March 17th. We had to cancel the next day’s Community lunch, but only one of the group took me up on the offer of a home delivery. By the following week, we were in lockdown. Ann and Fif Buckingham, who run the Anchor, have been delivering meals and serving take-aways since then.

No service was held on Mothering Sunday but the church had been open for private prayer all that week. As we could not get hand sanitiser, we’d left the hot water on and asked visitors to wash hands on entry and before leaving. I don’t know what made me go into church on the Monday and empty all the donation boxes, turn off the heating timer and remove all the rubbish,

but it was obviously the right thing to do as the church has been locked since the Tuesday.

The Parish Council quickly set up a group of helpers who are doing shopping and collecting prescriptions for those unable to do so for themselves. Thanks to all who delivered the notices to every house in the parish. Jane Hayes and Thirza are also running a food bank from the Church Rooms. Thanks to all who have donated to the boxes in the Post Office and Pop In and for the cash donations. There is a good stock at the moment and several people and families have been given food parcels.

Since lockdown the village has been unusually quiet and the car park half empty!

We managed a good collection of sunrise pictures on Easter Sunday. Paul and Claire Summers who live in Stoke went to the clifftop to take theirs and Jane Hayes even walked there from Hartland.

We have been grateful for the Compline and Wednesday services which keep us in contact, though I’ve not always managed to get in. Having a variety of online Sunday services to choose from has been

interesting; I ‘attended’ a Roman Catholic Mass the first week.

Walking round the village on permitted exercise trips at least has meant I’ve seen at least one person to talk to each day and working in the front garden achieved the same. Thursday clapping has brought neighbours out for a chat and all my neighbours had a tea party on VE Day. Thank goodness the weather has been good; had it been miserable I think our mood would have been less buoyant. Many in the village have been making scrubs for the hospitals and care homes and others have crocheted head bands to protect ears from the elastic of masks making them sore.

Since driving is now allowed, I have been down to Stoke and for a walk on the clifftop. There is now evidence of swallows in the porch, but I can’t see a bird in either of the nests.

Hopefully life will return to normal, whatever that is, in the near future. Social distancing will not be difficult in our church, but 2/3 of our congregation is over 70 so may not want to come out.

Kay Greenish

It seems very strange not to be around on Sundays to lead worship in the various churches across the Mission Community, and for the first couple of weeks, while we were trying to adapt to the new way of life, not to speak to hardly anybody outside of Hartland.

Since then, we are beginning to get our heads around conference calls and Zoom (until recently I thought this was just a rocket shaped ice lolly) and it has been lovely to see/speak to people at the services and socials. Please encourage each other to join in. It’s wonderful to be able to worship together in this way, even though some of the words and nuances get lost in the ether. I’ve been spending more time on the telephone than I ever did when I was a teenager!

I have been so thankful for technology, although I will always struggle with it. I don’t know how I would have coped with not seeing the faces of my family and not seeing my little grandson learning to walk. It makes me thank God for these advances that we have now to bring people together, and I hope that it will show us new ways forward in our church lives and in our personal lives. We don’t have to drive around the county/country *all* of the time, although I know that once it is safe to do so, I will be

driving to Wales to cuddle the aforementioned grandson. FaceTime can't fill every need! But we carry on - and do what we have to do to get as safely as possible through this strange and worrying time.



At St. Nectan Welcombe

The last time I went into a church was on Mothering Sunday, when I said Morning Prayer in Welcombe and Hartland, and we have agreed as a ministry team that we will not return to worship in our buildings until that privilege is available for all again. A hard decision to take, my study and my garden have been my prayer spaces during this time; as well as walks around Hartland Parish. It's been lovely to be able to gaze longingly over to Lundy to

pray for everybody there too!

The Church rooms in Hartland have been turned into a base for Food Bank deliveries, which have been fortunately fewer than expected, but those that have been made have been greatly appreciated. I believe we will be continuing this service for some while yet. I know there are schemes in other parishes too, and



At St. Nectan Hartland

this is real service as we are all called to help each other.

Messy Church met for the last time just before lockdown began, and it has been good to keep in touch with families through social media and 'over the garden fence' conversations. Hartland and Woolsery schools have received one 'virtual assembly' and there is

another in the making, some of the children will be watching it back in school, sadly, normal assemblies, like everything else won't be back for a while.

Looking forward when we can all be together again in 3D rather than 2D or a voice at the end of the line.

Every Blessing,

Revd. Jane H.

POETRY CORNER

Vera has been spending some of her time writing (and, as in this first example, translating) poetry. Some of you may already have read the final one on the Facebook site.

Gebed met die hande onder die kraan.
Neels Jackson

Prayer with the hands under the tap

The water runs over my hands
But the words are stuck in my throat.

How can you pray in these times?
We've never seen anything like it.
Lord have mercy on us

I feel the soap between my fingers
Rub my hands top, palms and sides,
washed clean

That is your metaphor, Lord.
But how do we interpret that now?

What can I pray for with my hands
under the tap?

I think of the vulnerable,
And wonder if I am one too.
Lord have mercy on us

You call us to follow you.
You give us the example of empathy
and service.
But how do we care at a distance?
Or does keeping apart show our caring?
Is this ritual of water and soap our new
sacrament?
Lord have mercy on us.

The markets are collapsing
Businesses are shipwrecked
And like drowning people we flood
Onto beaches of despair.
We've never seen anything like it.

I wash my hands in prayer
Lord have mercy on us.



We are all in the same boat

John 21:6

He said to them, “Children, have you caught anything to eat?”

They answered him, “No.”

So he said to them, “Cast the net over the right side of the boat and you will find something.”

So they cast it, and were not able to pull it in because of the number of fish.

We are all in the same boat

Safe inside the boat house

While outside

The storm is raging.

We're all in the same boat

Doing very little

Watching the chaos and destruction

Feeling helpless

We are all in the same boat

Wondering what to do

We should cast our nets on the other

side

Risk doing things differently

And trust

But

Will we?

Vera

I want to be in a crowd,

That's enough peace and quiet,

What I need now is a riot.

It is not allowed,

But I want to be in a crowd!

There is a good reason

I like the beach in high season,

Swimming not allowed

But I'd like to be in that crowd

That annoying queue in the shop

That brings your whole world to a stop!

Bring it on, bring it on!

But it is not allowed to be in a crowd...

Oh.. the sound the choir raises

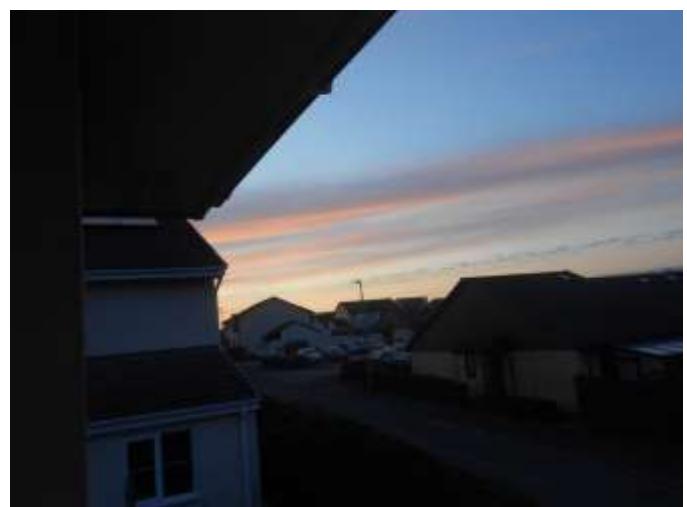
When they all sing their praises!

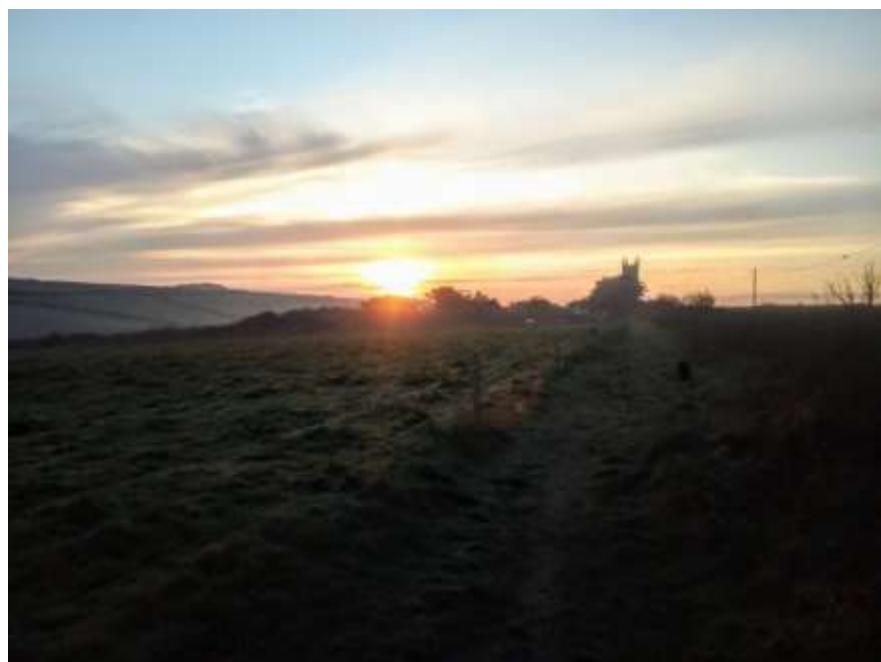
When again it's allowed,

I'll be in the crowd!

Please Tricia know if you would like to receive Hartbeat or the weekly information sheet electronically. Email address on page 5.

Photos of the Easter sunrise sent in
from a number of locations





Those who usually gather above the Warren Cliffs on Easter Day will recognise these shots. Following all the guidelines, Paul and Claire Summers and Jane Hayes were able to make the trip to ensure we did not miss out on what must be one of the better sunrises we might all have experienced.



Reopening our churches.

On May 11th, The Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally, said: “We note from the Government’s COVID-19 Recovery Strategy that churches could be open from July as part of the conditional and phased plan to begin lifting the lockdown. We look forward to the time when we are able to gather again in our church buildings.

"We are examining what steps we will need to take to do so safely and are actively planning ahead in preparation. We strongly support the Government's approach of continuing to suppress the transmission of the virus and accordingly, we recognise that at this time public worship cannot return in the interests of public health and safety."

“Watch this space!

We will be talking and planning together how we respond to the opportunities of gradual re-opening as Government and Church of England directives and guidance allow. Please get in touch with your Church Warden and Ministers to explore further. We will respond to each Church in context and, be reassured, do nothing hasty.

Jane

Hartland Coast Mission Community

A new Facebook group has been created to keep us all in the loop. This may fill you with horror, but this is a private group which you may join without revealing any personal details. Check the weekly information sheet for details.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Funerals

16 th March	<i>Doreen Tucker</i> St. Mary & St. Benedict Buckland Brewer
27 th March	<i>Richard Alexander French</i> Crematorium (St. Anne Bucks Mills)
30 th March	<i>Leslie Albert Buttle</i> St. Anne Bucks Mills
28 th April	<i>June Johns</i> Hartland Methodist Cnurch
6 th May	<i>Raymond Stevens</i> All Hallows Woolsey St. Nectan Hartland

Interment of Ashes

22 nd February	<i>Andrew Gander</i> St. Mary & St. Benedict Buckland Brewer
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Our thoughts and prayers are with family and friends

**Jesus invited everyone to come
and follow him**



**Messy Church
in the Methodist Church Hall,
Hartland**

suspended until further notice

...

**For more details contact
Revd. Jane Hayes
01237 440161**

If you are reading a printed copy of the magazine and would like to see all our photos (and many more) in glorious technicolour, please visit the website hartlandcoastchurches.org and click on the news tab. Back copies of the magazine are also available there.

Copy date for the next issue of Hartbeat (August/September) will be July 17th
Please send any photos as small attachments (not as a link!) hartlandcoastparishes@gmail.com

PRAYER FOR CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy,
in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from
your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Friday phiX (praise, hospitality and inspiration that's Christ-centred) from 7pm Methodist Chapel Rooms, Parkham.

Doors open 7pm for tea/coffee/nibbles and worship starts at 7.30pm.

Readings – Related Lectionary					
	1 st Lesson	Epistle	Gospel	Psalm	Colour
May 31st PENTECOST	Acts 2: 1-21	1 Corinthians 12: 3b – 13	John 7: 37-39	104: 25-35 & 37	Red
June 7th TRINITY	Exodus 19: 2-8a	2 Corinthians 13: 11-13	Matthew 28: 16-20	8	White
June 14th Trinity 1	Jeremiah 20: 7-13	Romans 5: 1-8	Matthew 9: 35 - 10: 8	100	Green
June 21st Trinity 2	Jeremiah 28: 5-9	Romans 6: 1b -11	Matthew 10: 24-39	69: 8-20	Green
June 28th Trinity 3	Zechariah 9: 9-12	Romans 6: 12-23	Matthew 10: 40-42	89: 1-4, 15-18	Green
July 5th Trinity 4	Isaiah 55: 10-13	Romans 7: 15-25a	Matthew 11: 16-19 & 25-end	145: 8-15	Green
July 12th Trinity 5	Isaiah 44: 6-8	Romans 8: 1-11	Matthew 13: 1-9 & 18-23	65	Green
July 19th Trinity 6	1 Kings 3: 5-12	Romans 8: 12-25	Matthew 13: 24-30 & 36-43	86: 11-end	Green
July 26th Trinity 7	Exodus 19: 2-8a	Romans 8: 26-end	Matthew 13: 31-33 & 44-52	119: 129-136	Green

The Ministry Team will be saying Morning Prayer at 9am each morning and Night Prayer at the end of the day.

While services in our parish churches are suspended, you may like to join in with them from your own homes. You can find an order of service on the Mission Community website - www.hartlandcoastchurches.org – or ask Tricia to email one to you.

On Wednesday mornings at 11am a Morning Service is offered on Zoom and on Sundays at 5pm you can join in with Compline via your phone.

Details of how to connect to these is given on the weekly information sheet.