

# NKDP

Time to Change Together

**NORTH KESTEVEN**

**Deanery Partnership**

**NEWS 3**

September 2023

## Reasons

### to be cheerful

**Bishop David gave the address at the June meeting of the Diocesan Synod. He began by outlining five reasons to be cheerful - not just cheerful, thankful and hopeful too.**

- **We have a new bishop.** Bishop Stephen is someone we already know and who knows us (and still wants to come to Lincolnshire!). He is keen to continue the TTCT journey with us. His installation will be in November, but he's already busy getting out and meeting people across the diocese.
- **We have launched our new Local Mission Partnerships.** Our new LMPs hosted the Visitation Services this year, instead of our deaneries. So our church wardens for the North-East LMP were sworn-in at Ruskington, for the North-West at Bassingham, and for the South at Sleaford.
- **Diocesan finances are beginning to head in the right direction.** Income across the diocese has started to increase. And where we now know how many stipends an LMP can



### *Churchwardens at Ruskington*

afford, groups of benefices or parishes can start making appointments to fill their vacancies.

- **We have appointed eight new Mission Enablers.** Each Deanery Partnership will have its own Mission Enabler. Their brief is to help churches explore ways they can grow the kingdom of God in their locality and to develop their own mission priorities.
- **New deacons and priests have been ordained this year.** It's always exciting and encouraging to see men and women stepping out into new ministries. There are plenty of opportunities for lay and ordained people – especially now that the new College of St Hugh is up and running. More info on the Diocese of Lincoln website - lots of possibilities!

### **Doing it differently**

We've divided our Deanery Partnership into three Local Mission Partnerships. Which means they're not based on our existing deaneries, as they are in most of the other Deanery Partnerships.

We're different in other ways too. We have only one big market town, and only one Type 1 Church. And we don't attract any Low Income Funding, nor any SDF (Strategic Development Fund) money. So we will be relying entirely on parish giving to pay for our stipendiary clergy.

### **Getting to know you**

Meanwhile, our three Local Mission Partnerships are beginning to shape up. The North-West team has been first off the blocks. Clergy and ministry teams have been meeting, and people from different benefices have been getting to know one another over tea and home-made scones. There's more to do, both to get to know each other and to get to know the wider areas we now belong to.

### **In the picture**

We'll be producing directories for each LMP so people can know what is where and who does what and how to get hold of them . . .

Each LMP will no doubt do things slightly differently, but please look out for invitations to get together.



There may be organised opportunities to explore your new Local Mission Partnership, but you could also simply turn up at a different church in your LMP once in a while . . .

### **Working in partnership**

Meanwhile we're offering a programme of Deanery Partnership events for the autumn. Some are for people serving in specific roles, some are open to everyone.

We've tried to find venues more or less in the centre of the DP area to reduce the travel – but please try to car share.

One or two venues aren't yet sorted, but we will send details when you book your place.

Book by contacting Rev'd Lorna: details in the box at the bottom right-hand corner of the page.

### **Come and Sing!**

**Saturday September 30<sup>th</sup>  
10.30am to 2.00pm - at Great Hale Parish Church**

Come and sing - hymns and songs, old and new. Come and sing - just for the fun of it. Come and sing - even if you can't sing.

The day will be led by Rev'd Rachel Revely who has extensive experience leading community choirs. We'll be singing music from Taize, from John Bell, all sorts. New words to old tunes, old words to new tunes.

Drinks will be provided, but please bring your own lunch.

### **Small churches growth group**

**Thursday October 5<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm – venue to be arranged**

It does what it says on the tin: if you're part of a small church and would like to explore the ways small churches can grow – then this evening is for you. We'll be planning to meet again.

### **Autumn Quiet Day**

**Wednesday October 25<sup>th</sup>  
10.00am to 3.00pm - Temple Bruer Church School Room**

We're planning to offer a couple of quiet days, in the spring and autumn. each year. Quiet days offer a simple space and an opportunity to stop for a while, to be still, to reflect, to pray, to go for a walk. Even to do nothing at all! No previous experience of quiet days is needed - everyone is invited.

### **Readers' Catch-up**

**Saturday October 28<sup>th</sup>  
10.00am to 2.00pm - Temple Bruer Church School Room**

We've already had a quiet day for Readers, and you asked to meet again. So this is a chance to catch up with each other, to compare notes, to talk about TTCT and whatever else is on your mind. A simple bread-and-cheese lunch will be provided.

### **An Evening for ALMs**

**Wednesday November 22<sup>nd</sup>  
7.00 to 9.30pm – venue to be arranged**

An evening for Authorised Lay Ministers. I imagine you'll also be meeting in your own LMPs, but you might like to meet across the Deanery Partnership this once as well. It's an opportunity to talk about TTCT, ALM training, other things . . .



### **'To Love and Serve the Lord'**

**Thursday evenings – 7.00 to 9.00pm, from October 19<sup>th</sup> through to December 14<sup>th</sup> and then from January 11<sup>th</sup> through to February 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

Want to explore your faith in greater depth? Would like to feel more confident in what you believe? Or maybe you're interested in an authorised lay ministry?

You can do this 16-week course on its own, or use it as a foundation to prepare for a specific Lay Ministry.

Most of the work is done in groups, and there is some 'homework' – but it's well worth the commitment. For more details or to book your place contact Rev'd Lorna.

### **BOOKING**

To book your place at any of these Deanery Partnership events please contact Rev'd Lorna. Email [lorna.brabin.smith@btinternet.com](mailto:lorna.brabin.smith@btinternet.com), or phone (01522) 794-868 or write to Rev'd Lorna Brabin-Smith, The Rectory, 19 Abel Smith Gardens, Branston LN4 1NN.