

# St Mary's Stelling NEWSLETTER

"Kent's most extraordinary Parish Church"



October 2017

## Welcome!

The spirit of fellowship and support at Stelling Church is strongly embedded, and is so precious as we pray for God's guidance for The Way Forward. We are all here to worship God, to use the gifts and talents we have been given for the glory of God, and to encourage and support each other.

## Services for October

1 <sup>st</sup>	Harvest Festival	Nick Hunt
8 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Communion	Revd Norman Woods
15 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Communion	Revd Phil Brown
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Morning Worship	Geoff Wright
29 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Communion - 10am Joint service with UH -	Revd Thomas Collett-White

## Dates for your Diary

**Harvest Lunch** (Bring & Share) @ Bossingham Village Hall. Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October (1pm).

**Sponsored Sleep-Out** - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October (6.30pm) to Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October (9.00am).

## Sponsored Sleep-Out!

The Sleep-Out at Church on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October is getting very close. We want to enable adults and children to have a brief experience of what it is like to be homeless, and at the same time to support Catching Lives and Stelling Church.

Attached to this Newsletter are the publicity poster, which you will see displayed locally, and a Sponsorship form including information for participants. There are also some Sponsorship forms at the back of the Church which you can use. We hope to include the school, the local community, and of course local Churches. Please support this event in any way you can by either:

- Sleeping-out yourself and getting sponsors.

- Sponsoring someone who is sleeping-out, and encouraging your friends and neighbours to do the same.
- Attending the Worship time in Church on Friday evening (8.30pm).
- Helping with soup and bread in the evening or breakfast in the morning.

We will also set up outside the Stelling village shop between 9.00am-1.00pm on the two Saturdays before the event (7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> October), to obtain sponsorship, receive donations and generally promote the event. If you could spare a couple of hours on either date, we would be very grateful - please let me or Julia know (709635).

This is the major community event of 2017 for Stelling Church - it will hopefully help Catching Lives and Stelling Church financially, raise the plight of the homeless, and place Stelling Church at the heart of the local community. Please give all the help and support you can.

## Stelling Church Finances

The 'true' net Year to Date deficit at the end of September is over £3,600; that means that we are spending an average of over £400 more than we receive each and every month, and that is without any significant unforeseen expenses so far this year. As a result of the decision to not replace Lynne, we expect to receive a partial refund of Parish Share this year, and a modest reduction in Parish Share for 2018 - I will keep you posted as negotiations proceed.

## Prayer Corner

Heavenly Father, we pray for all those who are sick in body, mind or spirit. Please bring them your healing, your peace in their pain, your strength in their weakness, and your comfort in their sadness.

Verse for the Month: For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that whoever believes in him shall not die but have eternal life. John 3: 16

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Lord, we ask for your guidance and vision for  
The Way Forward for your church here in  
Stelling. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

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