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## St Thomas . Penny Street . Lancaster

Worshipping God together and at home, we serve and proclaim Jesus wherever we are.

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# St.tees bulletin

## 29<sup>th</sup> November 2009

### TODAY

**Advent 1:** *Jesus is coming again - hallelujah!*

He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

Isaiah 2:v4 ESV



#### November 29<sup>th</sup>

10:30 am **Service of the Word** The Lord of heaven is to come redeem communities. Isaiah 2:v1-5, Zechariah 9:v9-end

6:15 pm **Holy Communion** Come to the Table. This service will provide time and space to explore some of the different aspects of Communion liturgy and think about what they really mean to us today.

**Some of our older Encounter teens will be at the 6:15 pm service today. Anne Gager and others will be serving a meal for them beforehand from 5:00 pm in the downstairs centre and then they will join us for the service. Do make them feel welcome as we encourage them back into main church services.**

**After Hours** for 6<sup>th</sup> form age students and those in their 20s (also Year 11 students) meet in the downstairs centre 8:15 pm Sundays. This term After Hours is based on a book called 'God's Big Picture' by Vaughn Roberts. Tonight's subject is 'Perfected Kingdom'. Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December there will be a party, after which, After Hours will not meet until Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

#### Sermon's for December:

##### December 6<sup>th</sup>

9:15 am

**Holy Communion** (said) in the downstairs centre

10:30 am

**All-Age Service** Waiting for God

6:15 pm

**Service of the Word** Meaning; What's the Point?  
(Luke 5: v 1-11)



##### December 13<sup>th</sup>

10:30 am

**Holy Communion** Advent Community waiting actively in prayerful attention  
(Matthew 24: v 32-51)

6:15 pm

**Service of the Word** Advent Community waiting in obedient expectation  
(1 Thessalonians 5: v 1-28)

##### December 20<sup>th</sup>

10:30 am

**All-Age Nativity**

6:15 pm

**Carol Service with Holy Communion** Advent Community waiting for his coming. Jesus came as a baby and is coming again as a glorious king. (Philippians 2: v 5-13)



##### Christmas Eve December 24<sup>th</sup>

5:00 pm

**Carols by Candlelight**

Jesus, Light of the nations.

##### Christmas Day

##### December 25<sup>th</sup>

10:30 am

**All-Age Holy Communion** Jesus the Saviour is born (Luke 2: v 1-20)

##### December 27<sup>th</sup>

10:30 am

**All-Age Holy Communion** The angels were there: worshipping and announcing the good news. We are messengers too (Luke 2: v 8-18)

6:15 pm

**Service of the Word**

# THIS WEEK

**PLEASE PRAY** for PCC tomorrow evening, **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November** meeting with our Patrons and Bishop Geoff.

**BIBLE STUDY on Mondays** for those aged 16 - 30 ish. A chance to delve a little deeper into the sermon series on Community and 1 Corinthians, and what it is saying to today's society. Opportunity to discuss together how to live lives that glorify God. Bring your questions/views and explore what God has called us to be as His church and live it out practically. 7:00 - 9:00 pm. It would be great to read the chapters beforehand and come with questions and thoughts on the passage. For tomorrow the passage is on chapters 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11! Dec 7<sup>th</sup> chapters 12, 14, 15 & 16!

**CHILDREN & YOUTH PRAYER MEETING Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December** 7:30 pm in the upstairs centre. As this is the last meeting this year and we would like to recap on Child Protection procedures, would leaders and helpers please make every effort to be there.

**WENDY'S CRAFT WORKSHOP Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December** 7:00 - 11:00 pm in the downstairs centre. Come along and make Christmas Candles. Painting, pin art and pretty gems help you produce centre-piece candles for your Christmas table. Cost £20.00. Contact Wendy on (01524) 61586 or 07817 754 095.

**CHOIR FOR CHRISTMAS** The first rehearsal is on **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December** 7:30 pm in church. If you would like to be involved and haven't yet contacted Martin, please get in touch. [martin@st.tees.org.uk](mailto:martin@st.tees.org.uk) (Future rehearsal dates **Thur 10<sup>th</sup>, Fri 18<sup>th</sup> & Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> December.**)



**WOMEN'S GROUP** meet for coffee **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December** 11:00 am at The Sultan, Brock Street, Lancaster. All welcome.

**STOP THE TRAFFIK Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December** A Day of Prayer at St Andrew's Church Sedbergh. If you can't make it to Sedbergh do pray at home. Details on the notice board.

## NEXT SUNDAY

- **STUDENT LUNCH Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December** in the downstairs centre (behind the church) following the morning service. All students welcome.
- **THE CHRISTMAS CARD** As in previous years, rather than church folk sending individual Christmas card greetings to each other, there is going to be one 'big card'. This will be in place next Sunday. Any donations will be given to The Ark.

## EVENTS COMING UP

**CONTEMPORARY DANCE GROUP** 8:00 pm in the downstairs centre. Just turn up! For anyone age 12 and upwards (no maximum age limit!) and no previous dance experience is needed. The dates for December are: **8<sup>th</sup> December and 15<sup>th</sup> December**. We would like to request that people make a donation of at least £3.00 for this class (if they are able to do so). There will be a money box on the table by the door for people to make their donations. More information from Jess Walmsley, Diane Armstrong or Debbie Lemmon (01524) 34007; [debbielem@hotmail.com](mailto:debbielem@hotmail.com).



**CHRISTMAS CREATIVE WRITING** Explore your faith through creative writing and discover the writer within you. Two writing workshops are taking place in the church centre upstairs lounge during Advent, completely free of charge. **Saturdays 5<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> December**. Could you write a modern-day Christmas Carol? Book your place by emailing Nick Robinson on [nick.robinson17@btinternet.com](mailto:nick.robinson17@btinternet.com) or ring 07889 294 102.

**SPORTS AT ST.TEES** Following on from the success of the weekly football group, we are keen to widen the Sports Ministry at St Tees. Ideas that have been suggested include *a running group, badminton and table tennis evenings, monthly cricket games, a series of rambles/hill walks, and even a water sports activity day!*

**A Sports Lunch** (bring and share) has been arranged for after the morning service on **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December**. Come and learn more about what may be happening in the New Year! Also, Martin Bateman will talk about his work with Sports ministry through Operation Mobilisation. *Book this in your diary if you would like to be involved with Sport at St Tees.* For now you can visit the church website: [www.st.tees.org.uk](http://www.st.tees.org.uk) for more information, or on Facebook 1.Search "@St.Tees". 2. Click on Groups, 3. Set Group Type to show 'Sports & Recreation'.  
The Sports Team

**LANCASTER & DISTRICT HOMELESS ACTION SERVICE LTD** will be using our premises again this year over the Christmas period. There are various ways you can be involved. If you'd like to know more please see the notice board or contact Homeless Action direct on (01524) 842008.



**PRAYER NIGHT "A Journey to Church"** The church will be set out as a journey through the Old Testament to the gospels on to the epistles and forward to the church today. Along the journey there are some rest stops. Chance to pause, listen and wait on God. Come and dedicate some time to God in the midst of daily life. See how God's people have journeyed in

various ways throughout the Bible and pray about what church can be and how you are part of it. Bring a notepad to jot down your prayerful ponderings during the evening of **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December**. Contact Naomi: [naomi@st.tees.org.uk](mailto:naomi@st.tees.org.uk).

### CHRISTMAS EVENTS & SERVICES AT ST THOMAS'S



**Puppet Nativity** for children under five and their families. Invitations on the welcome desk.

(If anyone would like to help with refreshments afterwards please contact Sarah).

Pick up a leaflet from the welcome desk giving details and times of Christmas Services.

### GROWING LEADERS COURSE

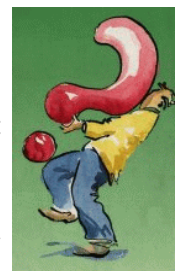
Leadership is a proven factor in growing, healthy churches yet so many struggle to find leaders. We need to grow more leaders - more people to take on leadership roles and responsibilities within our own and local congregations. We need more growing leaders - leaders who are growing and developing themselves, will tend to grow others into leadership.

The "**Growing Leaders Course**" is a practical resource from CPAS (Church Pastoral Aid Society). Over a year, provisionally booked to start at St Thomas's in January 2010 and led by Rev Sam Corley, it has a unique mix of teaching, mentoring and practical application which focuses on leadership routed in Christ, deepening commitment to long term service and essential skills for the task.

Numbers will be limited therefore all who apply may not be accepted. Dates of the course are on the notice board in the church lounge. If you're interested please contact the Church Office.

**STUDENT ALPHA is starting in January** and prayer support would be great. Also, if people want to get involved in any way please get in touch with Naomi ... There's plenty to do. Contact Naomi: [naomi@st.tees.org.uk](mailto:naomi@st.tees.org.uk).

**ALPHA** Have you always wanted to invite your neighbour or friend to an Alpha course, but they couldn't commit themselves to an evening Alpha? Do they live in the Morecambe area? Here's your chance: We will be running an Alpha course in Bare on Monday mornings, starting on **11<sup>th</sup> January**. If you or somebody you know is interested, please contact me here in church or give me a call on (01524) 406156 (Maja Möller). Our Alpha course is organised by different churches and will take place in a cosy living room atmosphere.



# NOTICE BOARD

**SUNDAY BULLETIN** If you have a notice for the Bulletin, please could information be sent to the Church Office by Wednesday. Please contact the office if you wish to display notices or leaflets. Thank you.

**BLANKET DRIVE** The Night Shelter urgently need blankets or warm waterproof winter clothes (hats, scarves, gloves, socks or coats for men and women) If you could donate any of these items please see Jess Walmsley.



**CHRISTMAS AT THE ARK** We would be most grateful for your annual contribution of socks, underwear, hats, gloves and scarves for our guests. We would like to request 'really girly' socks and briefs (size 8 - 10) for our young women. Men's pants size small and medium. (There are more men than women). Please leave in the box under the welcome desk. Thank you. NO TOILETRIES PLEASE

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY** There will be a party for Peter and Shell on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> January** and a 'farewell' on **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January** prior to their departure from Lancaster. Please give the office a photograph of your family or friendship group (labelled on the back). Also, do you have photos of church events from the recent or distant past? Any financial contributions for a gift can be handed into the office or placed in the collection - clearly labelled please 'for Peter & Shell'. Peter's Licencing Service will be on **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February** at St Mark's Gillingham.



**WEEKLY FOOTBALL Sundays** 9:00 - 10:00 pm at the University of Cumbria Sports Centre on the astroturf. All welcome. For more information contact Phil on 07900 037 590.

**PRAYER MINISTRY** is available following each service. Look out for those wearing a yellow badge - they will be happy to pray with you.

**STOP PRESS Noah Robert Shearsby** has arrived! Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November, 7lb.11oz. Congratulations to Robert and Suzie.

REFRESHMENTS TEAM			
Today	29 Nov	10:30am	Roger & Margaret Oliver's house group
		6:15pm	David & Cathleen Dawson's house group
Sunday	6 Dec	10:30am	Meg Eagles / Carys Atkinson's groups
		6:15pm	

For general information & further details about St Thomas's activities, do visit our website [www.st.tees.org.uk](http://www.st.tees.org.uk)

Office hours: usually 9:00am to 3:00pm Mon - Fri

☎ 01524 590 410  
e-mail [admin@st.tees.org.uk](mailto:admin@st.tees.org.uk)

Charity No 113 0550

**WELCOME.**

If you have recently come to St Thomas's, or even if you've been coming for a while, we would like to welcome you and get to know you better. Please fill in this tear-off slip and hand it in at the Welcome Desk or put it in the church letter box in the St Thomas Centre behind the church (The letterbox is at the top of the concrete external stairs).



First name		Surname		Title: Mr/Mrs/Ms/...	
Address					If a student tick box
Post Code		Tel No		age ? 20+, 30+, 40+, 50+	
		e-mail			
I would like more information about....			I am interested in house groups <input type="checkbox"/>		