

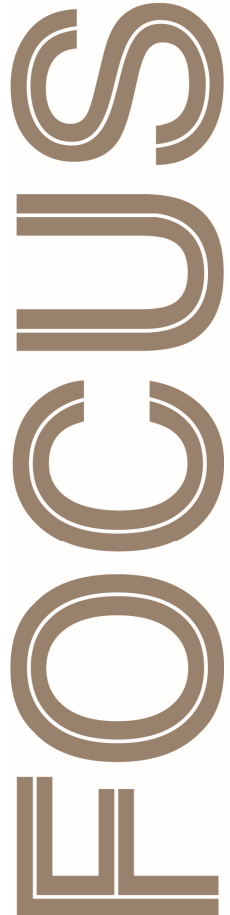
VICAR'S LETTER ...

THE Listening HOUR

Last Monday at 12.25pm I arrived rather hurriedly at the CONNECT building to lead the Listening Hour in the prayer room there. I was so looking forward to listening to God for an hour of quiet and to see what He might say. What I hadn't quite realised is just how many other people were also looking forward to it too. We were, a little bit uncomfortably, packed in like sardines, almost shoulder to shoulder in the prayer room. It felt that any move, any cough or sneeze or rustle of clothing was magnified in the silence.

Silence can feel a strange thing especially when done in community. It is something that we don't get much of in our modern world which is full of distractions and noise, much of which comes from the mobile phones we carry in our pocket. Silence can be something we avoid with constant background noise from the radio or

MONTHLY



PLEASE
TAKE
THIS
HOME

TV: anything to keep our minds distracted. Yet, when silence is embraced it is as if our minds begins to empty themselves of all the clutter they are carrying, allowing space for God to speak.

The Listening Hour started very simply with a reading from the Bible, Psalm 19:14

'May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.'

Armed with pen and paper we then listened in the quiet for God to speak, writing down anything that came to us. After about forty - five minutes of silence we then shared what we felt God had given to us.

The great thing about listening to God as a community is that together you begin to see patterns in what God might be saying through various people. The Bible says we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, and so it is important when we listen to God that we check out with each other not only what we feel God is saying but also what it means and how we are to apply it.

As the group shared what they felt God had given them, I couldn't help being reminded just how much God has a heart for the lost and how he wants to bring them into His kingdom. Moreover, how we as His church are called to work with Him on this. My hope is that as we listen more, God will teach us clearly how He wants us to do this.

The next Listening Hour is on Monday 4th February 2019 at 12.30pm at the CONNECT building and all are welcome.

Every blessing in Christ,

Daniel Currie



All Saints' Church - Marple

SUNDAY	3	8.30am	HOLY COMMUNION (BCP) Preacher: <i>Daniel Currie</i>
		10.15am	HOLY COMMUNION Preacher: <i>Daniel Currie</i>
		6.00pm	ENGAGE SERVICE
Tuesday	5	7.30pm	COMMISSIONING OF RURAL DEAN in Church
Wednesday	6	7.00pm	PROSPECTS in the Foyer
Thursday	7	2.30pm	EVERGREEN COMMUNION SERVICE in Church

WOMEN'S WEEKEND AWAY 8th-10th

SUNDAY	10	8.30am	HOLY COMMUNION (CW) Preacher: <i>Daniel Currie</i>
		10.15am	WORSHIP TOGETHER & BAPTISM
		6.00pm	ALPHA COURSE in Church
Tuesday	12	7.45pm	"CELEBRATE RECOVERY" at CONNECT
Thursday	14	2.30pm	EVERGREEN LIFEGROUP at 173 Stockport Road
Friday	15	2.00pm	SOUTH AMERICAN MISSION SOCIETY (SAMS) PRAYER MEETING at 7 Shirley Avenue

SUNDAY	17	8.30am	HOLY COMMUNION (BCP) Preacher: <i>Lesley Currie</i>
		10.15am	HOLY COMMUNION Preacher: <i>Lesley Currie</i>
		6.00pm	ALPHA COURSE in Church

Tuesday	19	7.45pm	"CELEBRATE RECOVERY" at CONNECT
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SUNDAY	24	8.30am	HOLY COMMUNION (CW) Preacher: <i>Barbara Webb</i>
		10.15am	MORNING WORSHIP Preacher: <i>Keith Wood</i>
		6.00pm	ALPHA COURSE in Church

Tuesday	26	7.45pm	"CELEBRATE RECOVERY" at CONNECT
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Wednesday	27	9.30am	HOLY COMMUNION in the Prayer Room followed by Home Communion
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Thursday	28	2.30pm	EVERGREEN SERVICE in Church
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(BCP = Book of Common Prayer / CW = Common Worship)

St Paul's Church - Strines

Sunday	3	10.30am	MORNING WORSHIP Preacher: <i>Keith Frost</i>
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Wednesday	6	2.00pm	REFLECTIONS
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Sunday	10	10.30am	HOLY COMMUNION Preacher: <i>David Hughes</i>
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Tuesday	12	2.00pm	BOOK GROUP
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Sunday	17	10.30am	MORNING WORSHIP Preacher: <i>Daniel Currie</i>
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Wednesday	20	2.00pm	REFLECTIONS
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Sunday	24	10.30am	MORNING WORSHIP Preacher: <i>Michael Sparrow</i>
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Tuesday	26	2.00pm	KNIT & NATTER
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WEEKLY EVENTS

Mondays ... 2.00pm GUITAR GROUP

Thursdays ... 10.30am "POP IN" for coffee and chat until 12Noon



THE
Listening
HOUR