



**PARISH PROFILE
FOR A PROSPECTIVE
TRAINING POST**

General Information

Benefice/Parish(es): St George & St Paul Tiverton

Mission Community: Tiverton

Archdeaconry: Exeter



Training Incumbent Name: Andy Humm

Contact Details for Incumbent: St Pauls Vicarage,
Bakers Hill,
Tiverton,
EX16 5NE
01884 252526

E-mail Address : vicar@tivertonchurch.org

Date of Ordination: 2010

Length of time in present parish(es): 6years

Other responsibilities and duties currently undertaken by incumbent:

- Rural Dean, Mayors Chaplain
- Chair of Churches together in Tiverton
- Chair of town-wide Bible society group

Previous posts and experience of incumbent, including details of experience with previous curates:

- Previous curate came 2018 completed curacy in 2022
- My own curacy completed at Emmanuel Loughborough (Leicester Diocese)
- Church planting team core member in Charlotte North Carolina USA 2001-2005

Nature of Post

Training post for deacon who expects to be ordained priest

The Parish Setting



The United Benefice of St George and St. Paul was formed in 2001 and became a single parish in June 2017 we serve around 8000 people. The population of Tiverton, is around 21,000.

We are one parish but have 2 buildings, our worship happens in St Paul's Church (See picture above) this is set in the heart of an area called West Exe. This is a working class area and one of the poorest areas in the top 10% nationally. St Paul's consists of the area of the town which lies to the west of the River Exe. This community was built up by a large textile factory which moved to the town in the 19th century. We are surrounded by many terraced houses, with further accommodation suitable for the elderly. Within this area there are some neighbourhood shops and a park, which has facilities suitable for younger children. There are areas of small private estates, together with social housing which has some of the problems associated with social and economic deprivation in the town. We are not a typical pretty Devon town.

Our other building is St. George's we do not use this space for worship, the sanctuary area is currently used by CHAT Churches Housing Action Team to store Food Bank provisions, Uniform Bank, Extra supplies for our own outreach ministries. A community café also runs out of the church extension monthly and stores its equipment in St Georges. The church is about 275 metres from St Paul's, on the other side of the River Exe.



St Georges is at one end of the town centre, with many shops and offices, including Mid Devon Council offices and community library.

Within the parish there are two primary schools, we have excellent relationships with them. There is one High School years 7-11, there is no sixth form provision, Students travel to Exeter or Taunton for years 12-13. There are no CofE schools in Tiverton. There is a fee-paying private school called Blundells, we have good relationship with this establishment too.

We are a semi-rural, market town, with good amenities, easy access to the M5 and trains to London. Exeter is 17 miles south and Taunton (Somerset) 22 miles north. With good bus services between them.

The Church

We are an evangelical church, fully trusting in the Bible and believing in the charismatic work of the Holy Spirit today and looking for signs and wonders of what God is up to around us and getting on board with what he is doing. We are signed up to the Evangelical Alliance statement of faith and we stand by the ministry and principles of New Wine.

There are currently 221 on the electoral roll

Over the past 2 year we have strived to continue reaching our congregations and community through a variety of activities both online and face-to-face. At the beginning of the pandemic we moved to online church streaming each week, and this continues with both services on a Sunday, and this has turned out to be a popular way for many to connect with us or to catch up.

Congregational Gatherings:

Sundays:

9am - Holy Communion - a common worship style service, with piano led singing – this service is slightly more traditional with a mix of hymns and songs. (ASA 50)

Refreshments served in between from 10am

10:45am - Informal Service of Worship - a contemporary style service, with band led music, (ASA 130 adults, 30 Children & Young people)

- Every 1st Sunday of the month - All Age Service where we worship together as a family *Christingle 2019*
- Every 2nd Sunday - crèche & children's groups
- Every 3rd Sunday - Holy Communion, crèche, children's & youth groups (up to year 10)
- Every 4th & 5th Sunday - crèche, children's & youth groups (up to year 10)

Thursdays:

10am - Midweek Communion - a traditional style spoken service, based on the Book of Common Prayer and Common Worship. (Attendance 18)

Refreshments served afterwards!



Regular Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals. This year we were working with and creating community as the lead provider with the local council for support to Asylum seekers. We also had the privilege of baptising some of them.

Children's Work

- Fusion: A mid-week Kids Club for primary-aged children. Approx 30 children
- Tiddlers & Toddlers: A mid-week Toddler Group
- Sparkles (Creche), eXplore (primary aged) Sunday Programme:
- Work with local Primary Schools: Assemblies, Open the Book, reading and visits



Youth Work

- Home groups for yrs 7-10 & 10-13 (approx 19 in total)
- Christian Union in Tiverton High School 2 days a week
- School Pastors in Tiverton High School
- 'Charge' weekly youth club (Approx 30)
- Weekly '2TF' Sunday morning teaching
- Mentoring for all who would like to.
- Part of core group for 'The Gathering' a bimonthly worship event in Exeter



Community Outreach

- Breakfast on the Go: A mid-week outreach offering Bacon rolls, Porridge, Tea, Coffee and Hot Chocolate to children/young people and parents on their way to school and work (Approx 160 each week)
- Lunch on the Go: A mid-week gathering for anyone who wants conversation and food (Approx 45 each week)
- The Living Room – A weekly drop in for anyone who might be feeling lonely. Conversation Cake and prayer (Approx 12 each week)
- The Big Table – A new project offering the opportunity to learn to cook in community and then eat together.



Mission

We tithe 10% of our congregational giving to mission, it is currently split between Bible Society, Churches Housing Action Team (CHAT), CMS Mission Partners, TEAR Fund and Reach Out ministries for a missionary in the Gambia.



The People

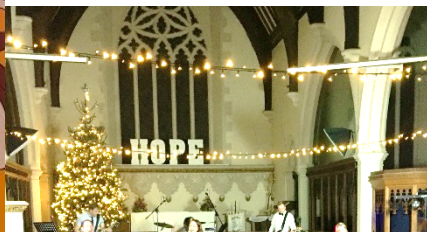


From L-R: Jonathan: Youth Minister, Andy: Vicar, Sheila: Church Warden, Sarah: Ordinand, Jude: LLM & Community Outreach, Cari: Church Warden, Debbie: Children's Minister, Verity: Parish Administrator.

We are an active church with over 70 volunteers each week, encouraging young and old to discover Jesus and his transforming power.

We have over 12 small groups, overseen by our homegroups Pastor. Groups meet regularly either by zoom or in person.

We love to have fun together, through a variety of events, such as Cream Teas, Brewery Trips, walks, Wine Tasting, Christmas Ball, Lego Days, Muddy Church, Board Game evenings, Quiz Nights, Barn Dances, Film Nights, all designed to make it easy to invite friends and talk about faith.



Vision and Priorities

As a local church set in our local context, our desire is to become more Christ-like;

- We long to be personally transformed by his love and to be filled with the Holy Spirit.
- We strive for our congregation members to be corporately transformed through worship, discipleship and service of each other
- And to see our community transformed by the love of Jesus, through acts of service and prayer.

Sung Worship is a priority and we long to do this well and with integrity. 9am is usually piano led with a small group of singers, occasionally with a flute or clarinet for accompaniment. We have 2 lead pianists.

The 10:45am service is band led, we are fortunate to have 5 worship leaders, and the band usually has keyboard, lead guitar, bass guitar, drummer and singers. With the occasional ukulele, mandolin, Kahon and flute

For Sundays we long to see:

- Teams of people, excited about serving each week, having a shared responsibility to enable the corporate gathering.
- A deeper desire for prayer and ministry
- Being welcome and open to new people, people who perhaps have never been to church before, and are unsure what to expect, plus looking at how do we make church more accessible?
- Inviting our friends and expecting God to work his transforming power in their lives
- Being expectant in prayer, being released into the gift of the Holy Spirit
- Ready to testify to what Christ is doing in us and through us.
- Continuing to live stream and engage an online congregation too.

Mid-week:

- Teams of people engaging and serving the needs of our local community, with the aim of showing and demonstrating the love of Jesus. E.g. Breakfast on the go!
- Re-imagining St Georges as a hub for the community, an enhanced presence to bring hope, salt and light.
- Prophetic re-imagining – of where God is calling us.

Over the past few years work has been carried out to upgrade facilities across our venues. in the light of a recently commissioned report by John Truscott a church consultant, it is clear we have the potential for growth: we have a strong presence in the community, and it is our prayer that many of those we serve outside the church building would wish to join our congregations.

A number of years ago, plans were begun to revamp the church rooms, church and community audits were completed. for a number of reasons, the project did not come to fruition has had been hoped. Many things then hindered any new progress including the pandemic, however as our engagement has risen and we have become very much more visible in our community it feels like the right time now spiritually to move forward physically. Tiverton does not necessarily need another community centre, but what it does need alongside us as the church is a place for weekly activities which allow us to be the beating heartbeat of Christ.



A place where we can birth new ideas.

The global church resource agency NAYBA says this - Churches are uniquely placed to transform their neighbourhoods. While official authorities can sometimes struggle to connect, the Church has proved its success for decades"

My dream is that our new church rooms first and foremost would be a place where people discover the life-giving hope of Jesus, all right here in the heart of West exe. Right next to a church that for the last 166 years has shone for Jesus! Where the people are the church, where we come together to serve, to love, to pray and worship and to help transform lives through the power of the Holy Spirit.

God is at work! Transforming lives and communities - As a PCC we have been praying for years about this, long before I arrived, but we sense now that this is the time! That God can do all we ask or imagine!!!

Incumbent-Curate relationship

I want your curacy experience to be a good one, a place where you can grow, learn and have fun!

I want you to learn alongside me and the team, sharing and developing your own ministry and giving of what you learn into this place.

I believe I bring collaborative leadership, a hands-on, let's do it together approach.

This church is a great place to learn and grow, yet is also a place to try and to sometimes fail, in a atmosphere of forgiveness, love and support.

I have been in full time ministry for over 26 years, bringing experience of youth work, church leadership, church planting and cross cultural mission. I have had the direct oversight and releasing of over 15 individuals during that time - I believe I am theologically secure and able and willing to share the ministry, enabling you to gain experience of the breadth of ministry here in Tiverton.

Prayer is key to all we do, and this would be a priority both in personal and public life. To be ready to share in the leading, whilst growing in the outworking of the Holy Spirit.

I believe openness and trust is essential, this would be built thro' sharing ministry together but supervision and reflection. And an availability to meet and talk when needed.

It is vital you attend all IME training, but also to be part of New Wine regional and national gatherings with myself and the team. And any other opportunities that arise.

For my own personal development, on top of daily devotions I try to read and listen to current leadership and ministry thinking. Such as, Pete Grieg, Carey Nieuhof, Glenn Packiam, Jon Tyson. My own curacy was a good one, with leadership and ministry opportunities and a learn alongside approach from my training incumbent.

Expectations of Curate

The curate is part of the ministry team and would be expected to be involved in the corporate life of the team and the church.

As a team we meet for prayers, lunch and team meeting weekly

Monthly we share in communion

Quarterly we retreat together.

You would be expected to preach and lead services, be hands on and willing to serve, learn and grow.

To build a good working relationship with me and the wider team, to be gracious and hospitable to those around you.

The freedom to try new things, as long as it is not illegal, immoral or unbiblical! We can give it a try!

Responsibilities

This would primarily be on the gifts you bring and thro conversation and prayer seeking God.

You could or might be involved in:

- leading Alpha courses,
- Pastoral care,
- Creative Evangelism
- Helping the congregation to grow a deeper awareness of the Holy Spirit
- Start a new congregation

Accommodation

Housing will be within the town.

The existing house is currently being used by another Anglican church.

The diocese will be able to comment further

Social Media

Our website gives a great feel for who we are and what we are up to. www.tivertonchurch.org

Find us on Facebook: @stgerogeandstpaultiverton and Instagram: tivertonchurch

Check out our services, devotionals and other bits on YouTube; St George & St Paul Tiverton

Contact for more information:

Director of Ordinands

Revd John Fisher

The Old Deanery

The Cloisters

Exeter EX1 1HS

Tel: 01392-477702

Email: john.fisher@exeter.anglican.org