

## ST CHAD'S CHURCH, BAGNALL —NEWSLETTER 08.10.23



### Our Harvest Service:

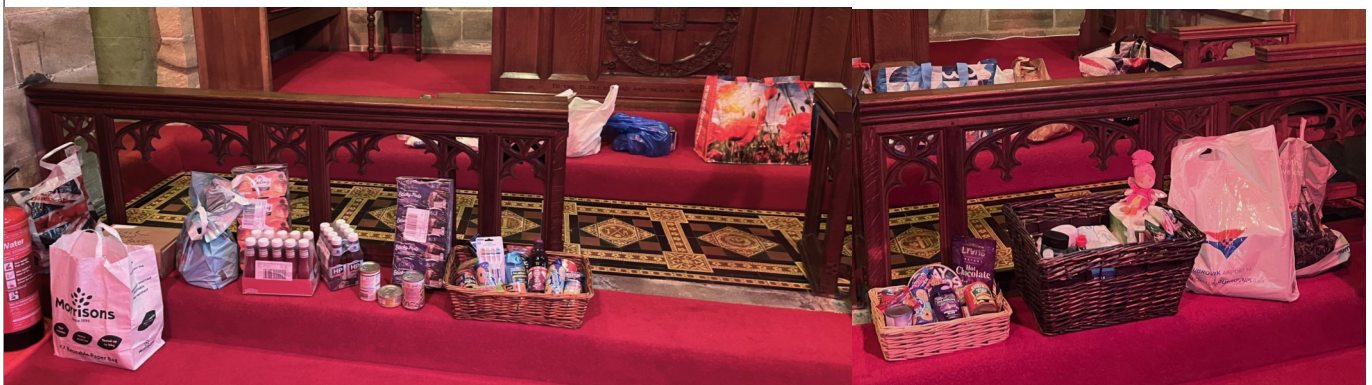
What a Harvest service! Talk about enthusiasm, joy and laughter. It was a really uplifting and entertaining service. The church was full from the very small to the rather more elderly with plenty in between. In fact in the picture below, the only spare seat that I can see is mine! It was so lovely to see all the familiar faces as well as old friends and new friends and even some first timers.



The speaker for the talk was Lindsey Stockton, the manager at Leek foodbank and the only paid member of the team. She gave a really interesting talk about how it all works and their affiliation with the Trussel Trust. Food vouchers are issued by such organisations as social services etc but they try very hard never to turn anyone in need away. They also offer advise and help where they can.

There were so many donations from the congregation as you can see from the photo below. You people are so generous! It's going to take Barbara and Peter a lot of time and muscle to ship this lot to Leek!

As I said in last week's newsletter the church looked amazing and the feeling inside St Chad's was fantastic. Dave, as always at family services, was at the piano and the final song for the service was "You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace" which gets faster and faster with each verse. Luckily the roof stayed on but I bet they could hear us in Endon!!!!



## And so to the village hall.....



Brian met me from church and we were ones of the first to arrive at the hall. Both of us felt a little nervous as neither of us had been to the harvest lunch before and neither of us is totally comfortable in a crowd (more than 4 people being a crowd!) We chose our seats with care (next to the exit!) and waited patiently for everyone else to arrive. I didn't count personally but I was told that there were 54 people present and as everyone arrived and met friends and neighbours, it certainly sounded like a multitude!

We were joined by Muriel B., Anne and Brian and Patrick, and it was a very merry table. Thanks to Barbara for taking these photos and actually having me on one of them. There was an awful lot of chatting and laughter and then the food was served by Grace and Arni. Because we were by the door, we got served first. I had the chicken and ham pie and Brian had the steak pie. I have to add as an aside here that Brian's least favourite vegetables are peas. He loves mushy peas but shuns whenever possible "real" peas. The twins are trying to get him to eat them but not with much luck! However, he manly consumed the lot and even said he enjoyed them (mixed with the pie, of course).

It was then time for desert and what a selection there was. For a diabetic like myself it's a nightmare but I really enjoyed the cheese an biscuits as Brian tucked into a huge muffin.

Just before the coffee, I had a little nudge and a "can we go home now?" I have to admit I was ready for some quiet, but we went, we really enjoyed ourselves and then the lovely day was made complete by entertaining Emmeline and Annabelle for the rest of the day whilst Mum and Dad did some shopping. We were rewarded with an M&S Chinese takeaway meal for two!

A very big thank you to all the people who made us so welcome, especially our table and to all those who were instrumental in making it all such a success.



Photos by Barbara of some of the people who were at the lunch.

As you can see there were lots of smiles and plenty of chatter and some very clean plates!

Once again thank you to everyone for their hard work.



### And finally.....

Around 250 items were packed into the boot of Barbara and Peter's car, with our blessing to all the people who use Leek foodbank.



[Leek and District Foodbank](#) is feeling blessed.

Harvest season is well and truly here and gifts aplenty are arriving at our door. Thank you so much to **St. Chad's Bagnall** St Andrew's Cheddleton and St Edward's Church, Leek for your wonderful donations. We are so grateful for your support



## CALLING ALL THOSE LONELY JARS OUT THERE!



Are they feeling useless? Unfulfilled? Lacking in motivation?

Do they feel empty inside, unloved and long for a new purpose?

If this is your jar, give them a new lease of life by turning them into a “Christmas Treat Jar” and watch them bring joy to the masses this Christmas time!

I think we all get through jars at home, whether they’re for jams, pickles, coffee or sauces. Once they’ve served their purpose, they are recycled without another thought.

Well, it is that time of year again when we are calling on **YOU** to wash out your jars so that they can be filled with goodies for the Christmas fair.

We would love you to donate filled jars so that we can sell them on the day to boost church funds. They can be packed with goodies for children or adults—for example, craft items, toys, chocolates or mini beauty products. The only thing that we ask is that any consumables included are within their sell-by date. All you need to do is fill the jar as full as you can, add a bow, make them pretty and the job’s a good ‘un!

*Esther x*



Well everyone, it is now October and when you look in any of the shops, you will now see serious amounts of Christmas goodies, decorations and gifts.

When I first wrote about the “Christmas Jam Jars”, it was back in July (I certainly can hardly believe that!) and understandably, everyone may have thought that it was WAY TOO EARLY to be thinking about such things! However, it is now autumn and Christmas will be here before we know it, so if you haven’t already done so, please take a few moments to seek out a suitable jar or two for the Christmas fair, fill them up with little treats and bring them along to church!

**Urgently needed.....**

**Someone to take responsibility for this enterprise.**

