**Westfield Church:**  **Sunday December 1st**

Valerie writes: **On Eagle's Wings**

Are you enjoying 'Young Chorister of the Year' on 'Songs of Praise' at the moment? It's the final, this week. I love the enthusiasm of the young people and the beauty and purity of their voices.

I found Barney's song, 'On Eagle's Wings' particularly moving. It was composed by Michael Joncas in the late 1970s as a response to bereavement. It is a song of sadness but also of hope, with words based on Psalm 91: it praises the uplifting presence of God in our lives.

'And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,

Bear you on the breath of dawn,

Make you to shine like the sun

And hold you in the palm of His hand'



**Sunday December 1st**

8.00am BCP Holy Communion:

9.30am: Holy Communion

**This week**

*Tuesday*

7.30pm: Prayer Group at 24 Greenacres

*Wednesday*

9.30am: Holy Communion

10.30am: Community drop in at church

7.30pm Home groups: at Apple Tree Down and Cockmartins Farm.

**Sunday December 8th**

8.00am BCP Holy Communion:

9.30am: Café Church

**Looking forward**

***Christmas services:***

Sunday 15th December: 6pm Carols by Candlelight

Christmas Eve Christingle services: 4pm and 6pm:

Christmas Eve, Holy Communion 10pm

Christmas Day, Holy Communion: 9.30am

The new memorial at Fairlight

Wednesday January 15th 7.00pm: Hastings and Rye
Deanery Celebration at Christ Church, Ore

Monday February 3rd: Benefice Quiet Day - More details to follow.

**Carols by Candlelight**

Rev. Sandi has asked for a robed choir to sing and would love to have an extended choir.  I hope previous and new ‘extras’ would be happy to sing. This year we are asked for two choir items as well as the carols and descants, and rehearsals will be on Thursdays at 6.30pm, Please let Janice know if you can join us – 07526 567537 or **Janice.bolton@nonesuch.me.uk****.**

**Welcome**

We hope you enjoy your visit or time with us and that you will be inspired and helped. We gather together every week to encourage one another to be equipped as live out our Christian discipleship at home, at work or wherever we are placed.

During the week, there are several different services and small group meetings, each of which has a distinctive feel and tempo. In all of them we reflect on our own lives and the wonderful promise of forgiveness and try to learn more of God and his son Jesus in a way that will change our lives and behaviour. *You are welcome to attend any or all of them.*

**Popular questions…**

*What about communion?*

Everyone who normally receives communion is welcome to share in the bread and wine (which is served by the vicar who dips the bread wafer into the wine before handing it to you). If you would like a blessing, but not communion, please keep your hands to your sides when the bread is offered to you. Non-alcoholic wine and gluten free bread is available (ask the vicar at the table). If you want communion in your seat, please say so.

*Can I have communion at home?*

If you, or someone you know, are unable to get to our services and would like to have communion in their home, please email dawnwestfield@aol.com and we can arrange for one of our licenced lay ministers to visit and share the bread and the wine using the approved liturgy.

*Children, what happens if they are noisy?*

We love having children in church so don’t worry about them making a noise or moving around.

*Dogs and other pets, are they really welcome?*

You are always welcome to bring your dog to any or all our services. Typically, there is at least one dog at the 8.00am Sunday service and the 9.30am Wednesday service. There is often a dog at the 9.30am service on Sunday.

*Toilets: where are they?*

Our toilets just inside the church hall. There is an accessible toilet and baby changing facilities.

*Is there a collection?*

We do not want anyone to feel any obligation to give to the work of the church or put anything in the offering bag or plate. Most services don’t have a collection.

*Baptisms, weddings, blessings, funerals and thanksgivings – can I have them in church?*

To arrange a celebration or ceremony at St John’s, please email to Sandi Wickens revsandiwickens@gmail.com or call 07395 106514 to speak to her.

*Can I make prayer requests?*

If you would like a situation prayed about, please contact Dawn 01424 255423 /
 0750 7745 159 or email dawnwestfield@aol.com.

*What’s happening in the next week or two?*

Sundays 8.00am: BCP Holy Communion

First and third Sunday of each month 9.30am: Holy Communion

Second Sunday 9.30am: Café Church in the church hall

Fourth Sunday 9.30am: Morning praise in church

Tuesdays (1st, 3rd & 5th) 7.30pm: Prayer Group at 24 Greenacres

Wednesdays 9.30am: Holy Communion

Wednesdays 10.30am: Community drop in at church
Wednesdays 7.30pm Homegroups at Apple Tree Down and Cockmartins

Second Saturday of each month: 3.00pm: Messy Church in church hall

Toddler Group is taking a break and will re-open in the Spring.

*Who can I contact?*

Priest in charge: Rev Sandi Wickens –07395 106514 revsandiwickens@gmail.com

Churchwardens: Dawn Archer - 07507 745159 dawnwestfield@aol.com
 and Suzanne Bunton –07753 430197

Safeguarding: Cathy Williamson - 07765 258012,

Parish administrator: Jayne Stevens – 07539652000 paforfgw@gmail.com