



# St Petri

## music team

March/April 2017

### FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

It may be that nearly all of the music in our culture and in the church is performance/entertainment based. The use of a band on the stage as the centre of it all, the lights, big sound, and close-up on the lead singer's face etc, remove the symbols and therefore the story of the Faith to a large degree and make music and singing more about those on stage than those present, who end up being there mainly to listen and applaud.

But there are still plenty of people in the church who remain deeply committed to singing as a sign of communal faith that creates and supports a sense of belonging and unity that cannot be matched by just good entertainment – at least not spiritually. For this community kind of song you don't need a stage, lights, close-ups or even many instruments. At the most basic level, for God's new song you only really need the instrument everyone has – the voice; the human voice.

I am a devotee of community song in the church. Singing the faith is unique and much needed in a world that creates a massive sense of isolation and loneliness for so many.

When we sing the stories, the feelings, the human understanding and the biblical texts of the good news of God's grace in Jesus, we may just be doing the best thing in the world for the sake of the world. I wonder if when we sing a song that tells of God's grace in Jesus with one voice on a Sunday morning in Nuri, we are being living signs of the unity and love God has for all people. As we sing together without the need or desire to entertain anyone or even impress anyone except the Lord, we are actually helping people receive God's true heart for them at an emotional level that does not always accompany the spoken word or done ritual in our worship gatherings. The spoken word and done ritual engage people at other levels.

We in our St Petri music ministry must continue to help people sing their faith and hear the good news with or without big sound or bright lights. This means a deep commitment to community singing as we do what we do in worship. There is a time for performance. I love a good concert as much as they next person. But in God's community gathered around his Word by the Spirit, it is not a performance and we are not there to impress. We are there to enjoy being in God's presence and help God's people, friend and stranger, old and young, hear him and respond to him there and in their lives between when we gather. To me that is true community and a gift of Jesus for 'all the lonely people'.

In Lenten Peace  
Pr. Adrian

### WHAT'S HAPPENING

- ❖ Welcome back Adam Ridley from six months study/work overseas. Adam will be taking on a leadership role in the new team restructure and we wish him and Naomi every blessing as they serve in our community.
- ❖ There's loads happening over the Lenten/Easter period. Lenten gatherings are Wednesday nights at 7.30pm, followed by a Bible study with Vicar Matt. If you're not going away, we'd love to see you at one of the Easter services:

Maundy Thursday	7.30pm
Good Friday	9.30am
Easter Sunday	8.30am/10.30am
- ❖ Sharon Green has some music books she'd be happy to give away to any interested parties:
  - Bel Canto: A Theoretical and Practical Vocal Method (Marchesi)
  - CPM Vocal Step 1 – Advancing (AMEB)
  - Guitar (Method for Young Beginners – Book 1)
  - The Trumpeter's handbookContact Sharon for more details!

### BIRTHDAYS:

- 1<sup>st</sup> March - Matthew Liersch
- 26<sup>th</sup> March - Dave McArthur
- 14<sup>th</sup> April - Ann Gallasch
- 18<sup>th</sup> April - Anneka Wilksch
- 28<sup>th</sup> April - Mark Bartsch, Jon Markey