

st paul's & grace church barrow



Pause Netflix. Try Alpha Online

with St Paul's & Grace Church Barrow
Wednesdays, 8-9pm, from 5th May



We're looking forward to launching Alpha Online this coming week on Wednesday evenings, 8-9pm. Throughout lockdown many people across the world have explored life's big questions from the comfort of their homes through Alpha Online.

We've been really encouraged by the interest shown over the last week or so. If you know someone who might appreciate trying Alpha Online, do put them in touch. It's just an hour a week on Zoom.

More info on Facebook or go to the sign-up page:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/alpha-online-tickets-152192884013> or speak to Robin, Hannah or Debbie.

Could you commit to praying for Alpha Online each week? If so, please contact Hannah Wallace.

MUM'S THE WORD

Our second New Life support group for new mums began on April 21st and will last for five weeks.

We're delighted to be able to welcome and care for a handful of mums who have signed up, and we look forward to exploring how we can support parents and families going forward. Please speak to Hannah Wallace if you'd like more info.

NEW LIFE
Covid safe **SUPPORT GROUP**
for **NEW MUMS**
with **NON-MOBILE BABIES**

Weds 11.15 - 12noon
Arrive from 11am
5 weekly sessions. Limited spaces



REBRANDING UPDATE...

If you remember, at our April APCM we shared results from the *Your Story, Our Story* forms about our identity going forward as one church.

There was an eagerness to acknowledge this is a new chapter in our story, but it also seemed to make sense to retain the simple name 'St Paul's', given its associations with the building and parish. We certainly don't want to give an impression we're permanently two churches. But a bit like a wedding ring in a marriage, adopting a new logo & branding helps communicate to everyone (including ourselves) that this is a new chapter and that we're all included.

On Monday the PCC approved plans to use a Christian brand designer to begin a process of crafting a new logo & brand design for our church, based on our identity and story.

We hope this may be ready to be launched at our Celebration Weekend in 2-4th July.

Wonderfully, due to a gift, we have been able to employ the designer at no cost to our existing finances.

Thanks to everyone who has been able to consider their own financial giving to church over the past few months. If you've not been able to get a copy of our 'Gift of Giving' leaflet, please let us know.

contacts:

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Elaine Bates: 822 149 (off Saturday) | ebates12@hotmail.co.uk

Church Wardens: Jackie Dower: 826 557 | **Derek Pearce:** 227 664

Church office (Sheila Pearce): 821 546 (Mon-Thurs 9-12.30)

or admin.stpaulsbarrow@btconnect.com

Hannah Wallace (Ordinand): hewallace.28@gmail.com

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[www.fb.com/gracechurchbarrow](https://www.facebook.com/gracechurchbarrow)

Charity Commission No. 1132621



Have you got **Friday 2nd - Sunday 4th July** marked in your diary? If not, please do! We're planning a special Celebration weekend in the life of our church for two reasons: firstly, July 2021 is the 150th anniversary of the St Paul's building being dedicated to God's service, but secondly, we also want to take the opportunity to celebrate the merger of St Paul's & Grace Church, having not been able to physically do this yet.

On Sunday 4th July, Bishop James will be joining us, but we hope the whole weekend will have various elements of celebration aimed at different ages. We'd love to involve everyone connected with the life of the church, as well as reconnect with those whom perhaps we've lost touch with.

We're hoping to put together a small team to oversee arrangements. **If you have ideas or are interested in being part of this team please let Robin know.**



WE NEED YOU!

A strong theme in the *Your Story, Our Story* forms was that we want young people & families to be a priority for our church. Wonderfully we can all play a part in making this a reality!

In the next few weeks we're looking to restart *J7*, our Sunday children's group. Over the coming months we imagine this then dividing into groups for different ages. Maureen Aubrey, Zoe Ham and Becca Whitehall are overseeing this and would love to hear from you about helping.

There are four different ways we'd love help.

1. **As a Leader.** This would involve helping to lead a session, probably on a monthly basis. Material & training would be provided, but some preparation would be needed.
2. **As a Helper.** This wouldn't involve preparation, but would mean giving your time on a Sunday to set-up, help the session to run, and engaging with the children, again ideally on a monthly basis.
3. **One of the above, but not yet.** Perhaps you'd love to be involved, but you don't feel able just yet (perhaps you're waiting for a vaccination, etc). If you could, please still let us know so we plan ahead.
4. **As a Supporter.** Maybe you don't see yourself being actively involved in the kids' ministry. However you can still make a big difference to our children every week by welcoming them, chatting to them, being patient with them, and praying for them. :)

Which one might be right for you? Thanks!

TRANSITION & TWEAKS...

Robin writes...

Many people have said how delighted they are to be back meeting together physically on Sundays. Even for those currently unable to be there, I know people are thankful that we've been able to stream our 10am service from the building onto Zoom. Thank you to Callum & Sam who've helped make that possible, and to Callum for lending his equipment.

Back in 2020, we received over £1600 from Advent booklets, and so, on top of a restricted gift for technology, the PCC have approved us using this to purchase our own streaming equipment. Moving forward, this will also give us the option of streaming onto Youtube and Facebook.

Of course, we're aware that restrictions mean meeting physically still has its frustrations, not least not being able to sing & interact as normal. However, I thank you for your patience. We pray the end is in sight. It's certainly an adventure!



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